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CREATURE FEATURE

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PALACE MIAMI

LUCIEN RORY BRADY & JAMAL

MY WAR!

J-KWON KRUSHED

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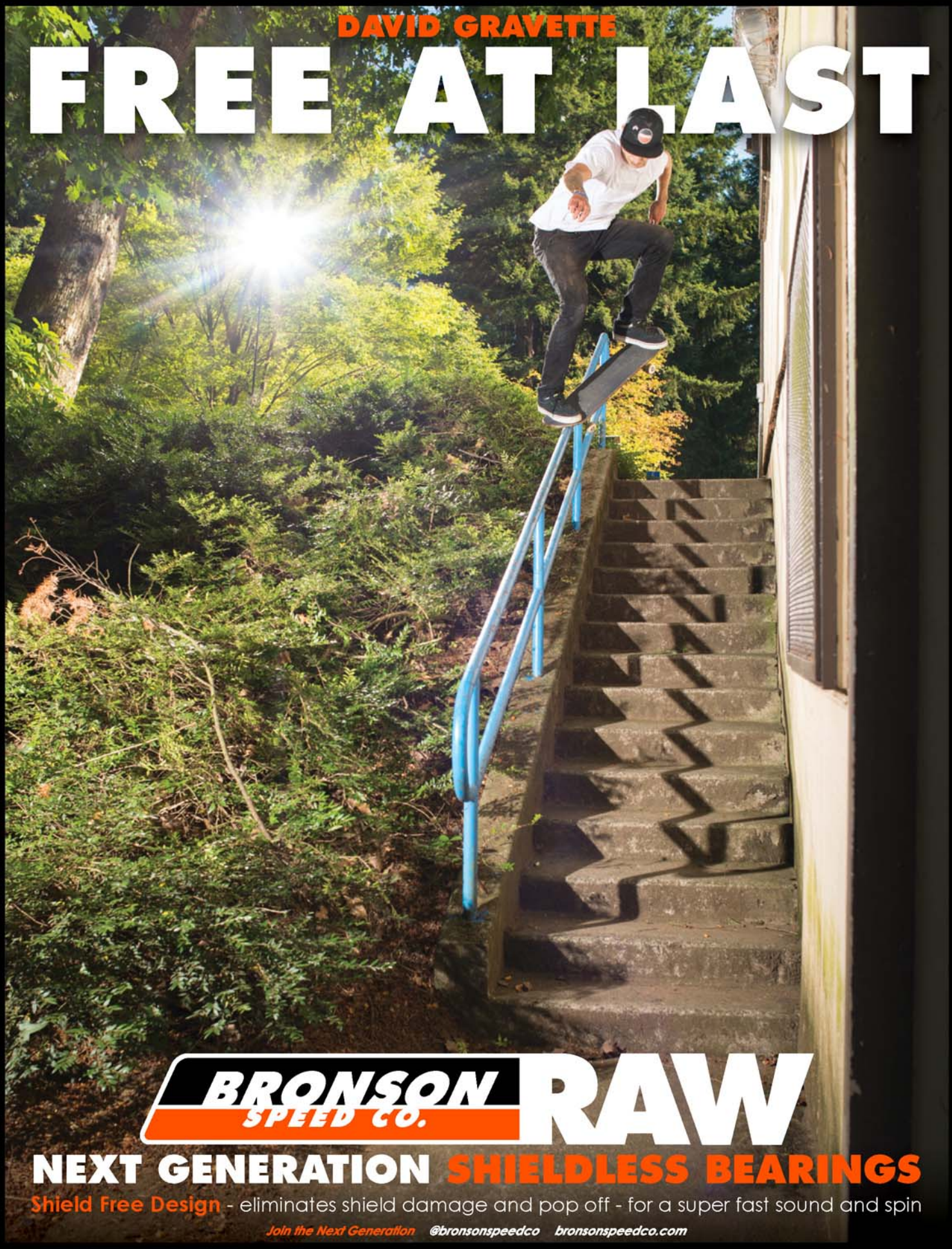
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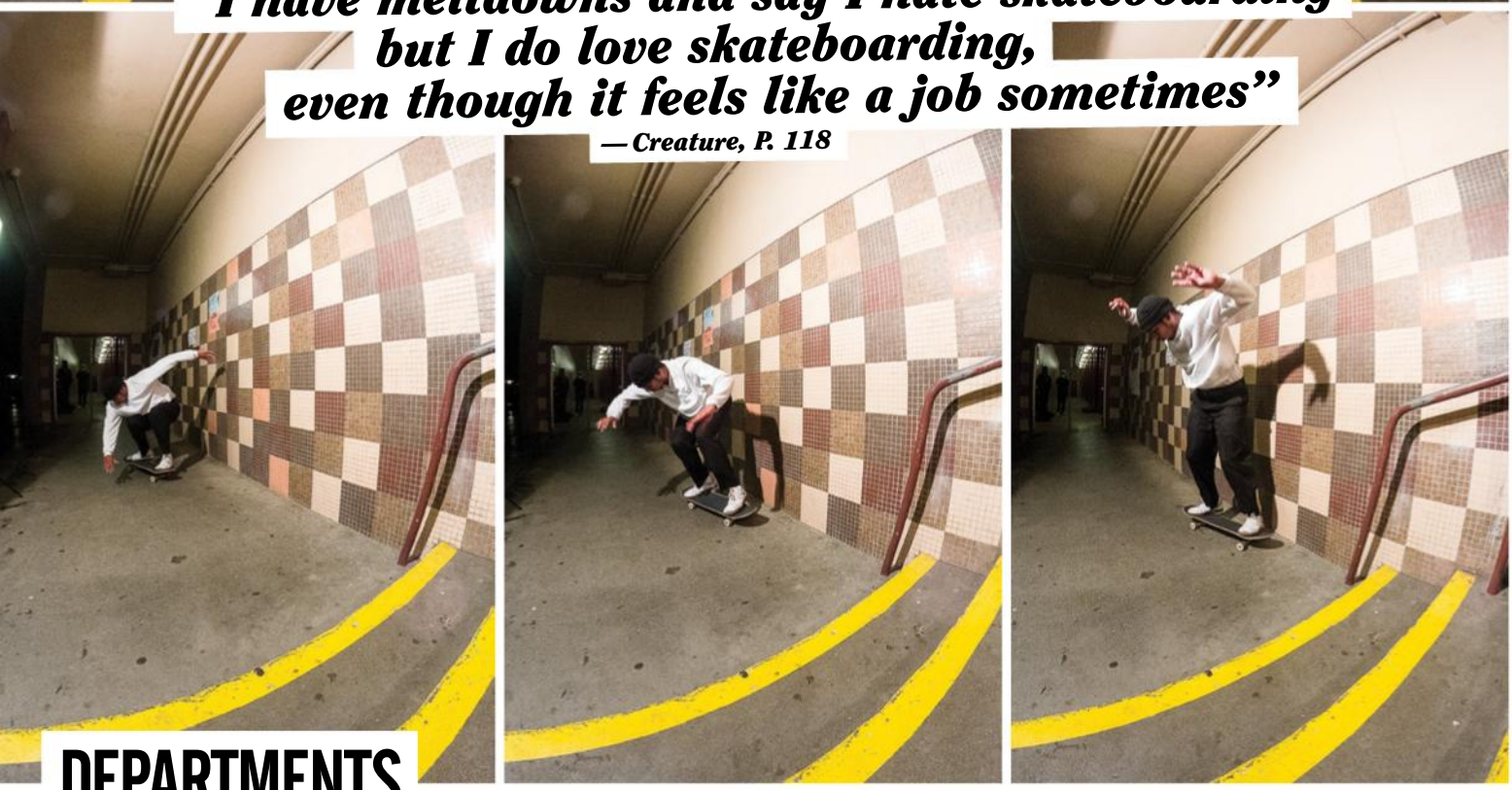
"I have meltdowns and say I hate skateboarding but I do love skateboarding, even though it feels like a job sometimes"

—Creature, P. 118



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Cover: Norse Creature fiend **Kevin Bækkel** finds a treacherous **boardslide** line down a dusty So-Cal spillway. Photo: Rhino

Contents: **Thaynan Costa** joins the pro ranks with a trend-rattling **body varial to switch back 50** against the wall. Sequence: Givens

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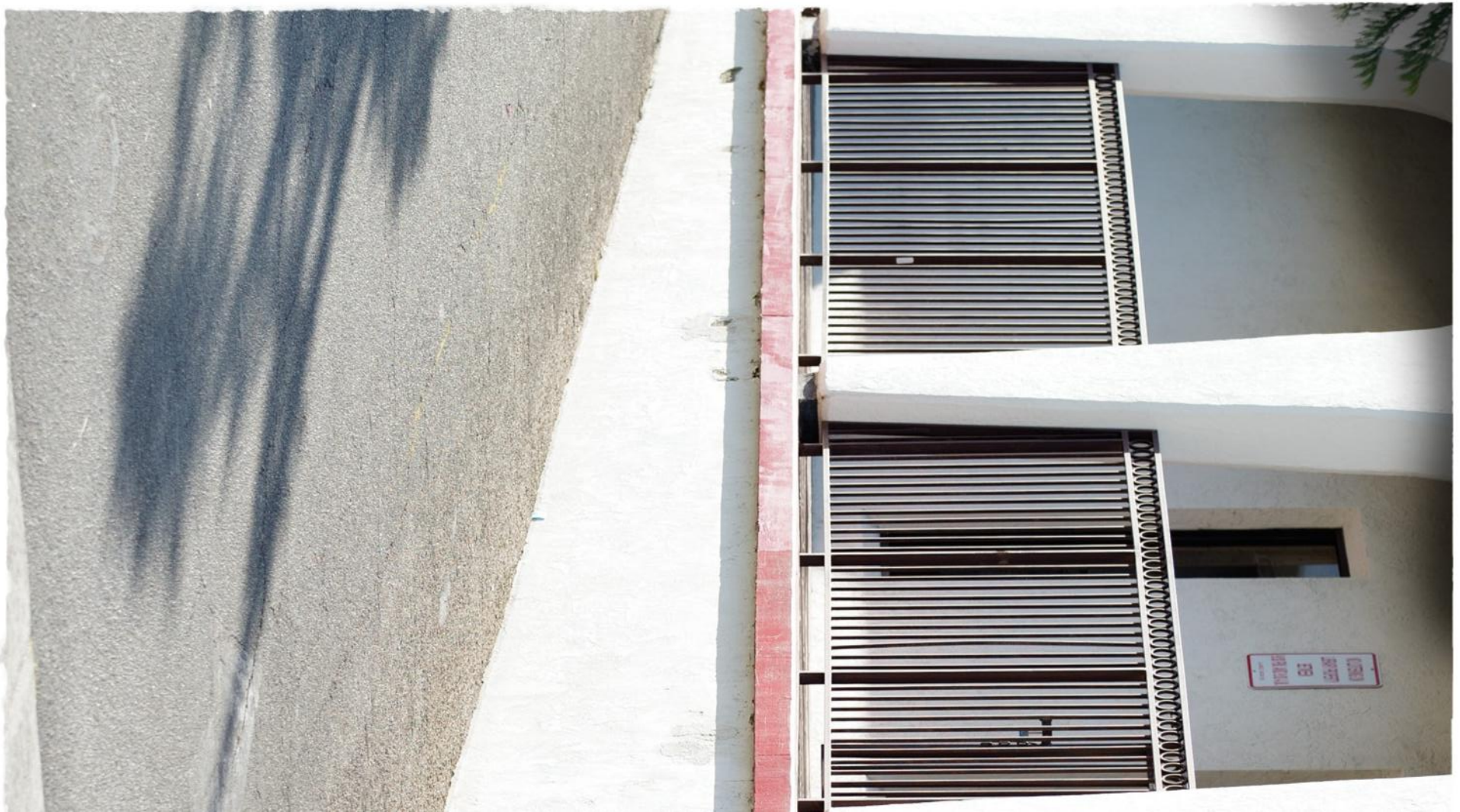

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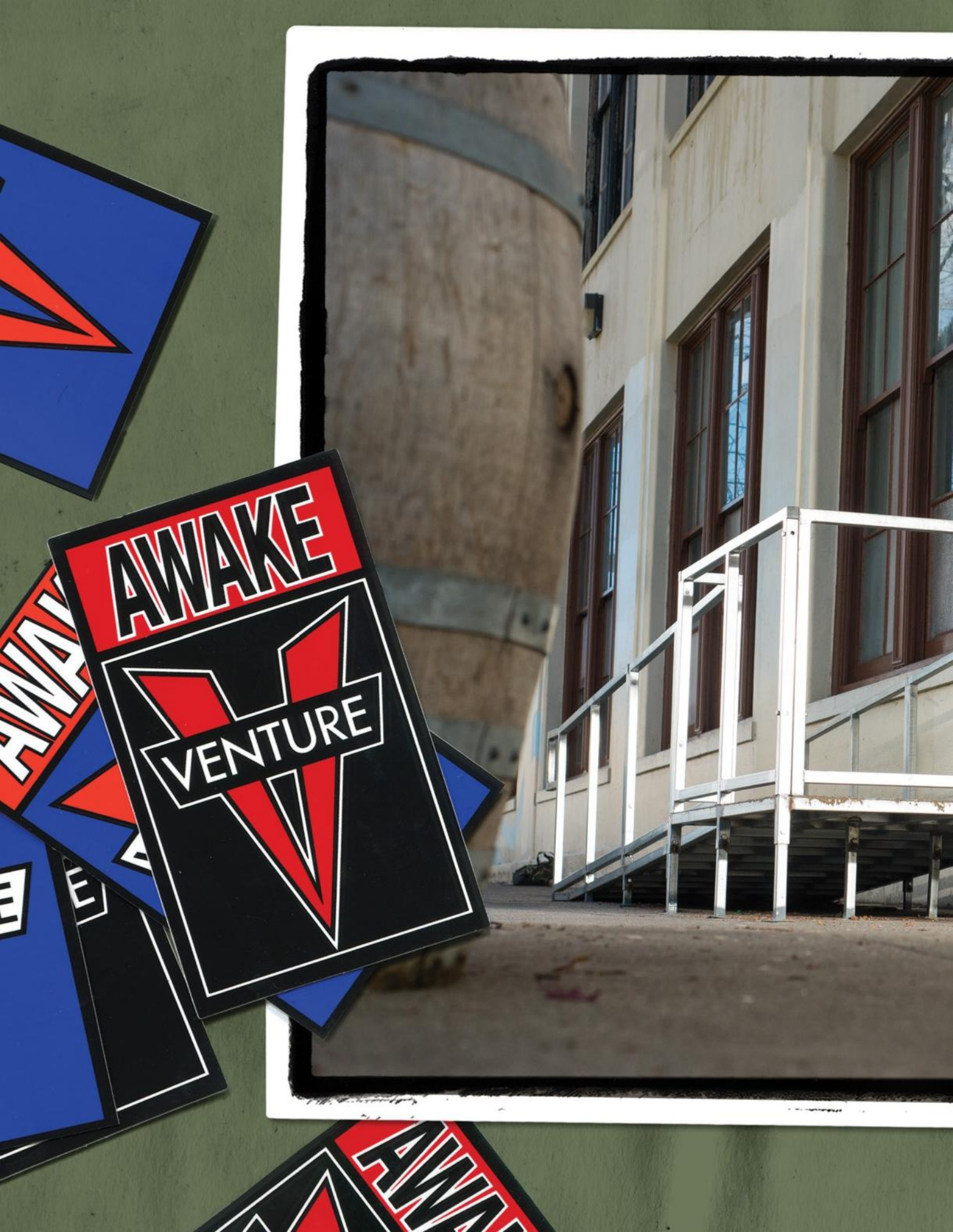
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Drake Johnson Awake

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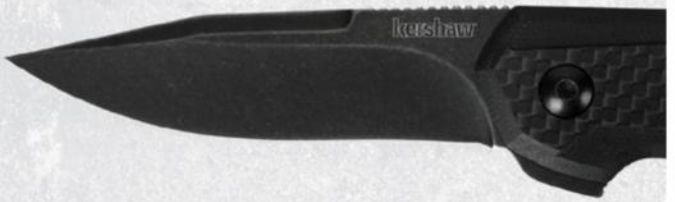

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Mark Appleyard skating his signature shoe the Mahalo SG. Globe's Shogun cupsole adds support and flexibility with a deep cushioning footbed for impact control.
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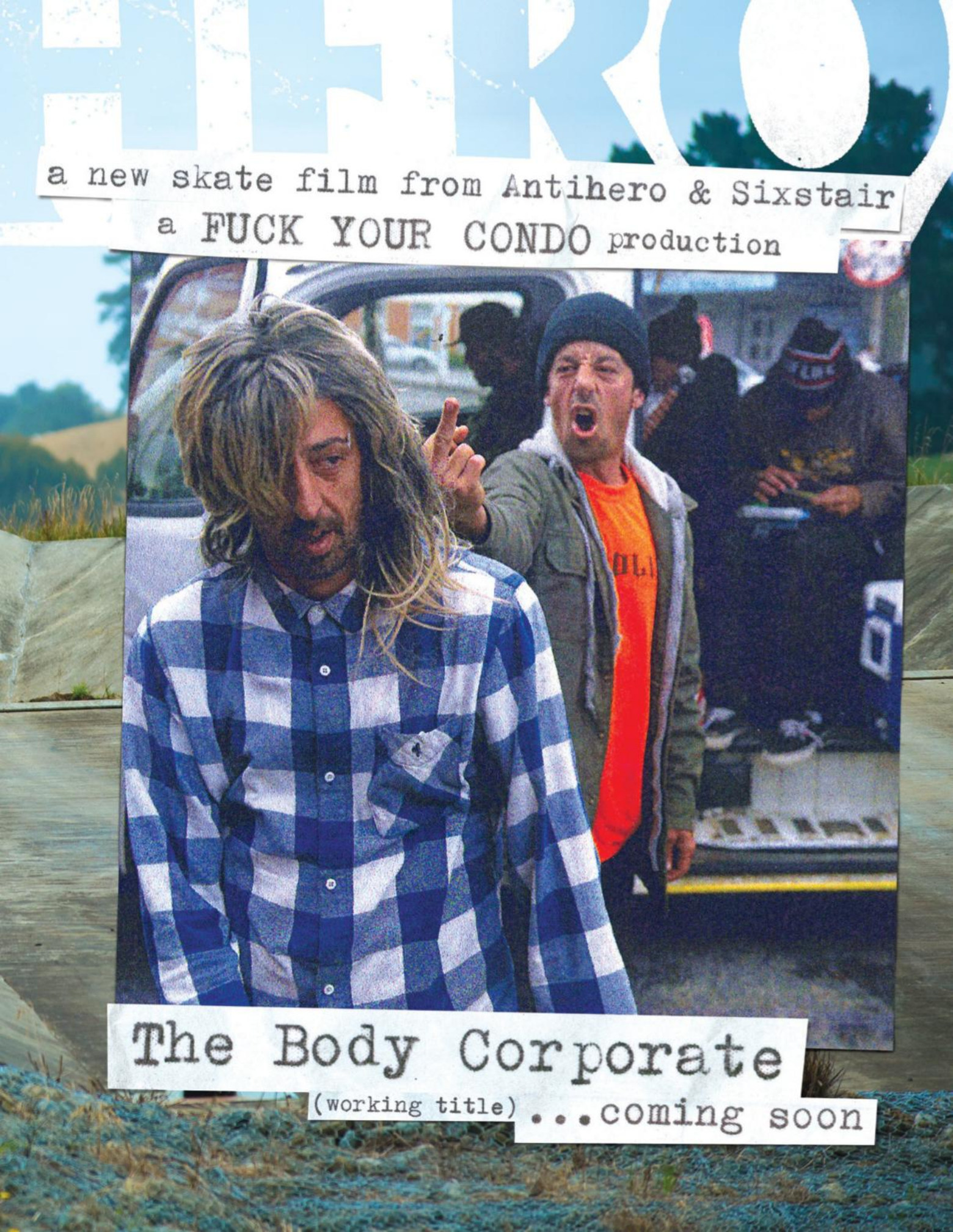
a new skate film from Antihero & Sixstair
a FUCK YOUR CONDO production
The Body Corporate
(working title) ...coming soon

BLAZER

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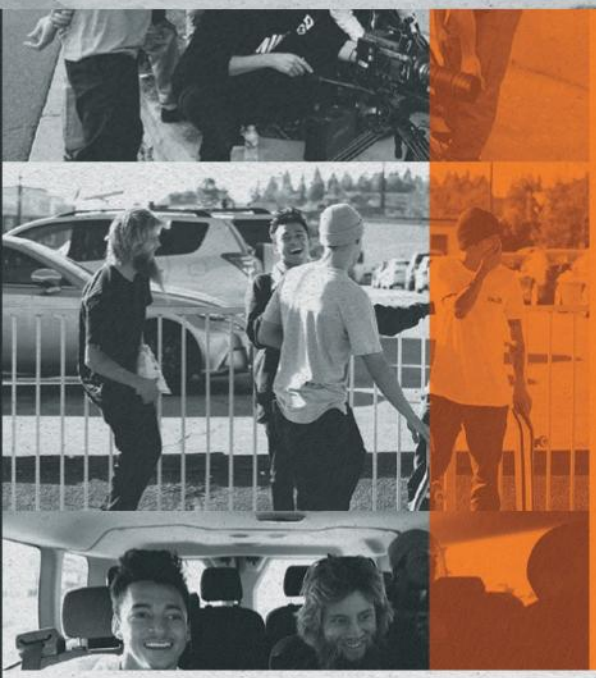

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SB BLAZER VAPOR AS WORN BY NYJAH HUSTON

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TWO CENTURIES

Back in the 1990s, I made a large purchase of old stock skateboards from a distribution company. I was looking to invest in art for a skate shop I planned to open. I wanted to put the NOS (New Old Stock) skateboards up in the shop. I stored them at my dad's home, as there was no industry of NOS skateboards and no one yet truly knew the worth of NOS skateboards. I had my girlfriend list a few on eBay. There were a couple others selling NOS skateboards as collectible sports products. I only had her sell a couple as she said they sold for $60 or so, and I truly wanted to keep these NOS skateboards to decorate a skateboard shop. I was always involved in music and art, as well as being involved in tattoos and the larger jam band scenes that traveled the great American, Canadian and Mexican highways of the new America born out of a 1950's American dream of carbon gas. So, I stored these NOS skateboards until the prices went up for collecting them. NOS skateboards started selling on eBay in the early 2000s after the Dogtown documentary, so I waited two more years and sold my collection of NOS boards on eBay. It all worked out.

Benjamin Gruber
Centennial Colorado
Start smoking 'em. —T-ed

FLAT BOTTOM

Religion has nothing to do with skateboarding. There is a separation between church and skate. Skating takes no prisoners. You're either in or you're out. Today on the bus somebody joked, "I retired from the mafia." I put my two cents in. He had nothing to say. My mentors are Hansen, Flick, Quinn, Barci, Alva, and Jay Adams. These people passed the sacred skate knowledge on to me. Now it's my turn to be the elder. I'm entrusted with the task of educating the youth. I take this very seriously. Jake, I know you guys help the youth in SF and Potrero Hill with product and inspiration. Thanks for holding the traditions passed down from the elders. These kids will rule the world.

Q-Man
Portland, OR
Jesus is the flatbottom. —T-ed

LOCKED DOWN

I can't stop imagining what it must feel like to not be able to do the thing you love most in the world: Late at night you jolt awake, beads of sweat glistening on your forehead like tiny diamonds. You can smell the pungent odor of shit coming from the little potty in the corner of the room. Outside your cell is the deadening silence of the night punctuated only by the occasional echoing of footsteps of authority, of the word, of the law, and the whistling of an old show tune your momma used to play on long drives through Escondido. You're riding down the avenue, the sun beating down on your back and you're thinking of all the ways you'll never die, weaving invisible threads through the cars. All you can hear is David Lee Roth belting out "Panama" through the headphones of your Walkman, that and the gravel beneath your wheels, the carving of concrete and the sounds of summer around you. Maybe in one of your hands you're holding a slushie, over your eyes are a big pair of Ray Bans, which you don't need anyway because you're going too fast for the girls to see where your eyes are drifting too. You're tearing it up, sliding through traffic lights and not giving a fuck, everything is how it should be. Then outta nowhere you hit a piece of gravel, it goes under one of your front wheels and throws you off the board—out of the color, away from the bluest of blue skies, away from the greenest of green grass and into the darkness of the grey road, into a concrete abyss which you wake up to. Suddenly, sweat dripping down your face, the smell of shit and urine, you listen to the eternal whistle coming outside of your six-by-eight foot concrete cell. In the day you pace around in tiny circles, biting your fingernails down to the bone, tasting blood in your mouth as you smash your head against a wall and lie cold on the freezing floor when this gets to be too much. You think of Cali girls, now fading from your memory, now only ghosts of a sunshine past. For Christmas someone from the outside sent you a miniature skateboard set, a tiny little board that you ride with your fingers up a tiny vert ramp no bigger than your hand. For hours you sat at your little bedside table, elevated at this gift, wishing that you were actually as small as you've come to feel, so small you could be able to place your feet upon the little plastic board, until the day you actually tried to stand one foot on it, just for long enough to ride it a few feet across your cell. It snapped and the next day a guard threw the broken toy away. And these days it's not even that bad, now you're a little older, as you lie in your cell dying a thousand deaths a day, the worst part was living out the rest of your boyhood years, the years of uncontrollable energy that knew no bounds, without a piece of wood, with four wheels and two turning devices.

Andrew Finch
In space, no one can hear you scream. —T-ed♠

"You think of Cali girls, now fading from your memory, now only ghosts of a sunshine past"

ENVELOPE OF THE MONTH: Nelson Flores / Flagstaff, AZ

Envelope of the Month winners receive a free shirt and stickers. Include shirt-size. Inmates must give a separate address for the prize to go to.

Lifting up, grabbing tail and guiding, high above the heated skies of yet another pool he destroys, is NEW OJ rider Roman Pabich. Benvenidos to the team G!!!

Brixton

JUSTIN HENRY

FEELING PUFFY?

PAPKE

John Shanahan airs it out, switch

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MARK SUCIU

SWITCH BACKSIDE FLIP IN THE *SUCIU ADV* /// *MARK SUCIU* IN *LONDON*

Photography: Zander Takelome © 2017 adidas AG

NICK GARCIA
(OPPOSITE PAGE) TIM O'CONNOR
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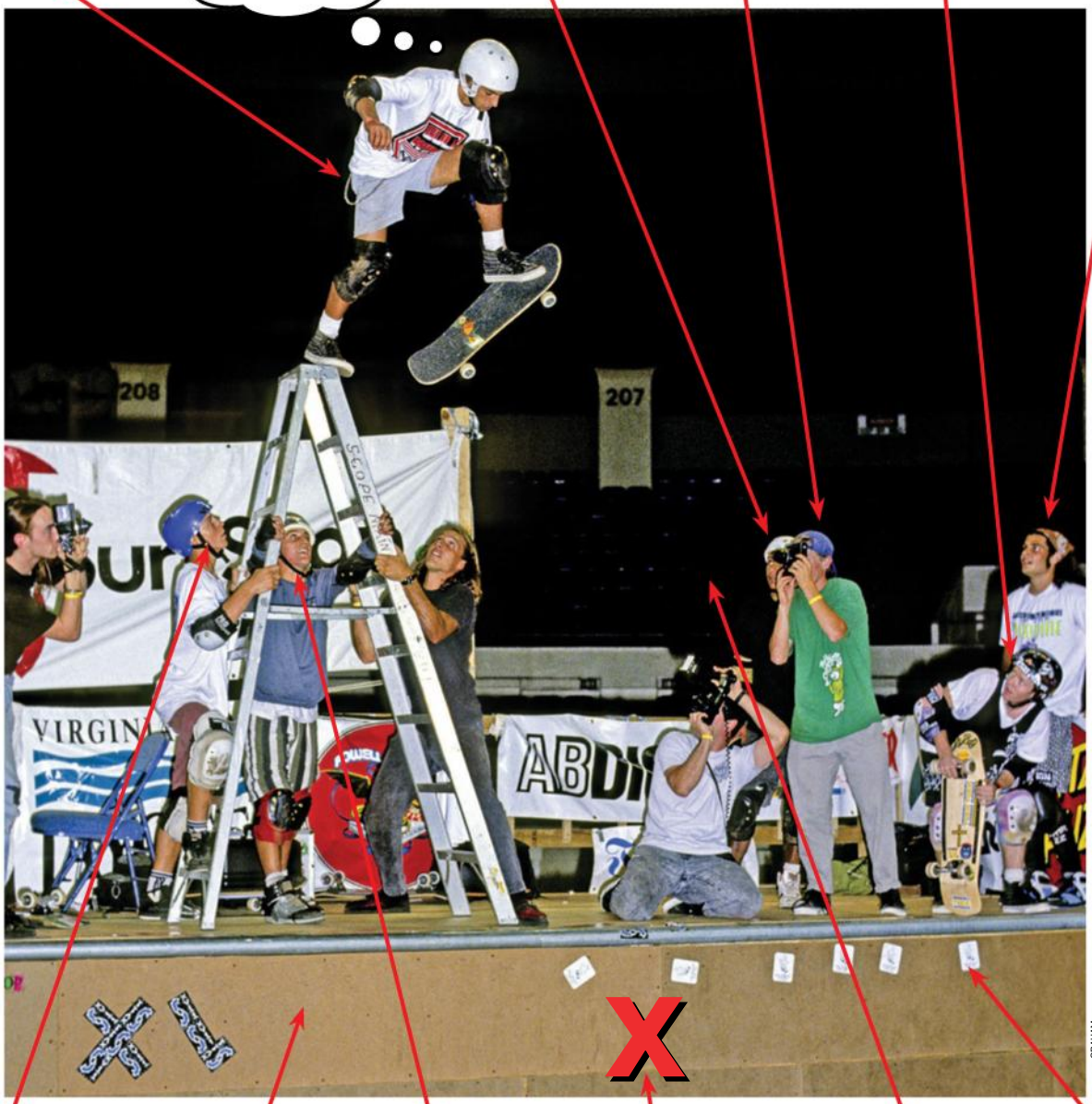
25
MADE TO ENDURE · SINCE 1992

OF AN '80s SHOWSTOPPER

BEFORE THE Boom-Boom Huck Jam, the Mega Ramp and Bob skydiving into the Grand Canyon, the closest vert riders could get to the stratosphere was off the top of an old step-ladder. Steve Salisian stepped lively, paid dearly... and then vert died two years later.



When first place is $400, hell yeah you need a chain

Jon Sonner? He's a widdler

Spike Jonze

Ken Fillion

The Condor

"Some day I'm gonna write a rap about this..."

Cardboard castle

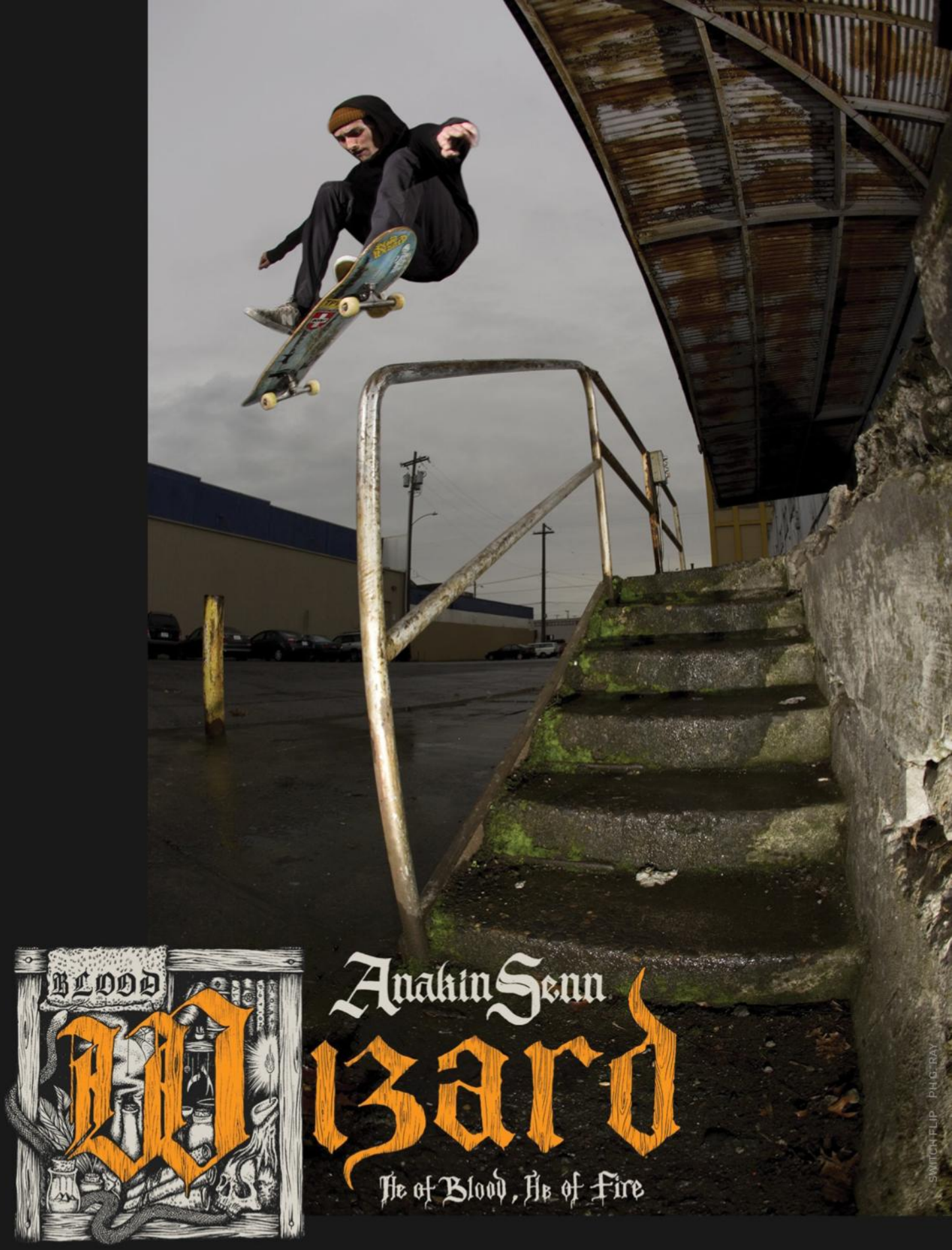
"Is it bad luck to be under here?"

Aiming for here. Will actually land 8 feet below

Capacity crowd of 118 people (not shown)

The Internet

GRAHAM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BONES

I MADE A GRAPHIC A DAY FOR OVER THREE YEARS

JOSH ROW'S EPIC ART ENDEAVOR

KHALSA

My friend Josh Row is currently on the fourth year of his Daily Deck project: a self-assigned task of designing a skate graphic a day for 365 consecutive days. At completion, he will have created 1,460 unique, individual graphics. I hit him up to see why in the hell he's creating so much unnecessary work for himself.
—*Michael Sieben*

What was the initial inspiration for the Daily Deck? Had you seen a similar design project that sparked the idea?
I had heard of folks doing a drawing a day type or people taking a photo a day. I really enjoy hyper productivity and being in a constant work flow and I love designing boards so the idea just seemed like a very natural direction. I hadn't really seen anything like it either.

Was there ever a time during that first year, or since, that you felt like abandoning the project?
Many, many times. Some days are so full of crap you *have* to do and on top of that you still have to make this design that you aren't gonna get paid for and will take anywhere from an hour to three hours of your time—that can make you want to beat your head on something and say, "Fuck it." The first year was the hardest, for sure. Now I just wake up at an ungodly hour and knock it out before I do anything else. Lots of coffee is a must.

How many decks in total have you designed for this thing so far?
One-thousand-one-hundred-fifty-five.

Have any of the designs become actual decks?
A few have! You used some for Roger, obviously. Wampum skate shop in NY has copped a few. A local company called Pugsly made one. And my friend who had a brand called Brown Boards used about five of them. Also, many of them have become No Comply shop decks, the shop I co-own in Austin, Texas. It really is the best when they actually become real-life decks. It reaffirms why I still do it.

What is your all-time favorite graphic?
Well, obviously the DTF Slay Anything graphic I did for Roger is number one.

Which one do you hate the most?
Honestly, I hate about 80 percent of the ones I designed the first year. It's easy for me to have a favorite, but having a focused negativity about a single graphic is too much of a stretch. I *will* say I have come a long way since day one.

You've told me that you think people steal designs or concepts from your project. Who do you think is out there ripping off your shit?
Ha! I'm just kidding. I think there are design trends and frequencies out there that designers get on or tap into—especially in skate culture—and that can result in similar looking imagery. I highly doubt anyone is or would consciously rip me off. I mean, I rip off tons of crap. It's part of the skateboarding graphic culture to reappropriate. I can't hate.

Give me a percentage in terms of how many of these are phoned in.
In the first year I was in school full time and working, so I wanna say like 75 percent of them were just crap I made in, like, ten minutes. Year two was a bit better. Probably about 50/50. Year three was, like, 60/40 in favor of the more planned out graphics and this year I am feeling strong. It's always like that in the beginning of the year, though. By the end I am just trying to get to the finish line without losing my legs.

What's the best comment you've read about this project.
"Dude! That's so f'ing rad! Do you mind if I steal this idea?"

And to follow that up, what's the worst or meanest thing you've read about the Daily Deck?

> ***"I really enjoy hyper productivity and being in a constant work flow"***

I posted a link to a design thread on reddit and it just got bashed and trashed. I agreed with everything they were saying, though, and took it all constructively. I also put it on a skate thread called shreddit and it got lots of love, so it's all really a matter of perspective.

What's the end goal? Are you trying to get work or are you just doing this to strengthen your design and illustration skills?
I think, for me, it's really for the love of doing it and to become a stronger designer. It's a lot like

skateboarding in the sense that if you do something enough, and fall and get back up and keep doing it, eventually you won't fall as much and you will make tight shit on the regular.

What would be your dream skate company to do graphics for?
If we are not limited by the space time continuum, H-Street circa *Hokus Pokus*. If we are limited, then Antihero or Baker would be pretty rad.

Have you gotten any feedback from illustrators or designers that you look up to?
I think Jeremy Fish said my stuff was okay one time.

So I understand this is the last year for The Daily Deck. What's next?
I don't plan that far ahead.♠

To see more designs visit: thedailydeck.com or @danglife

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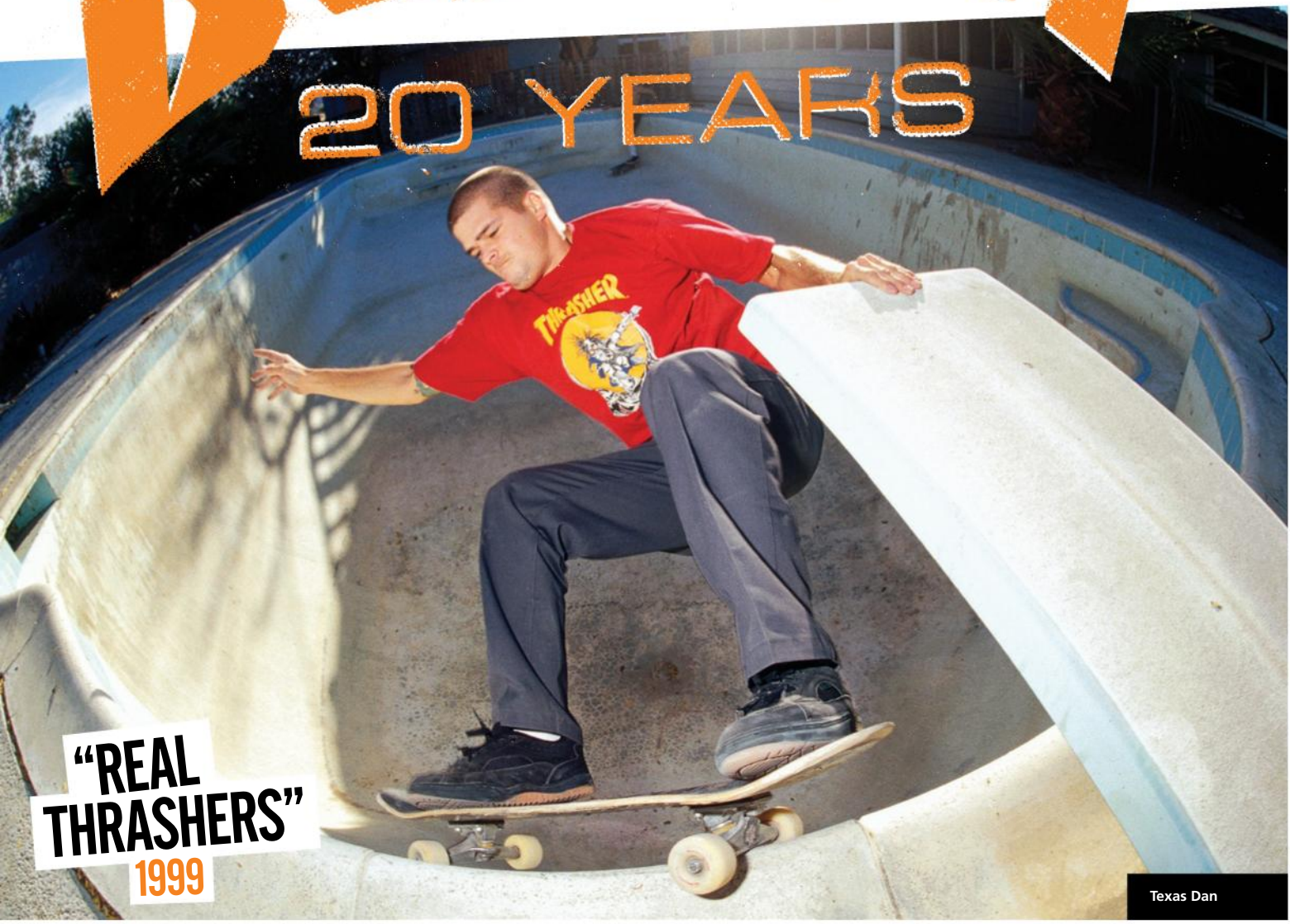
BURNOUT

20 YEARS

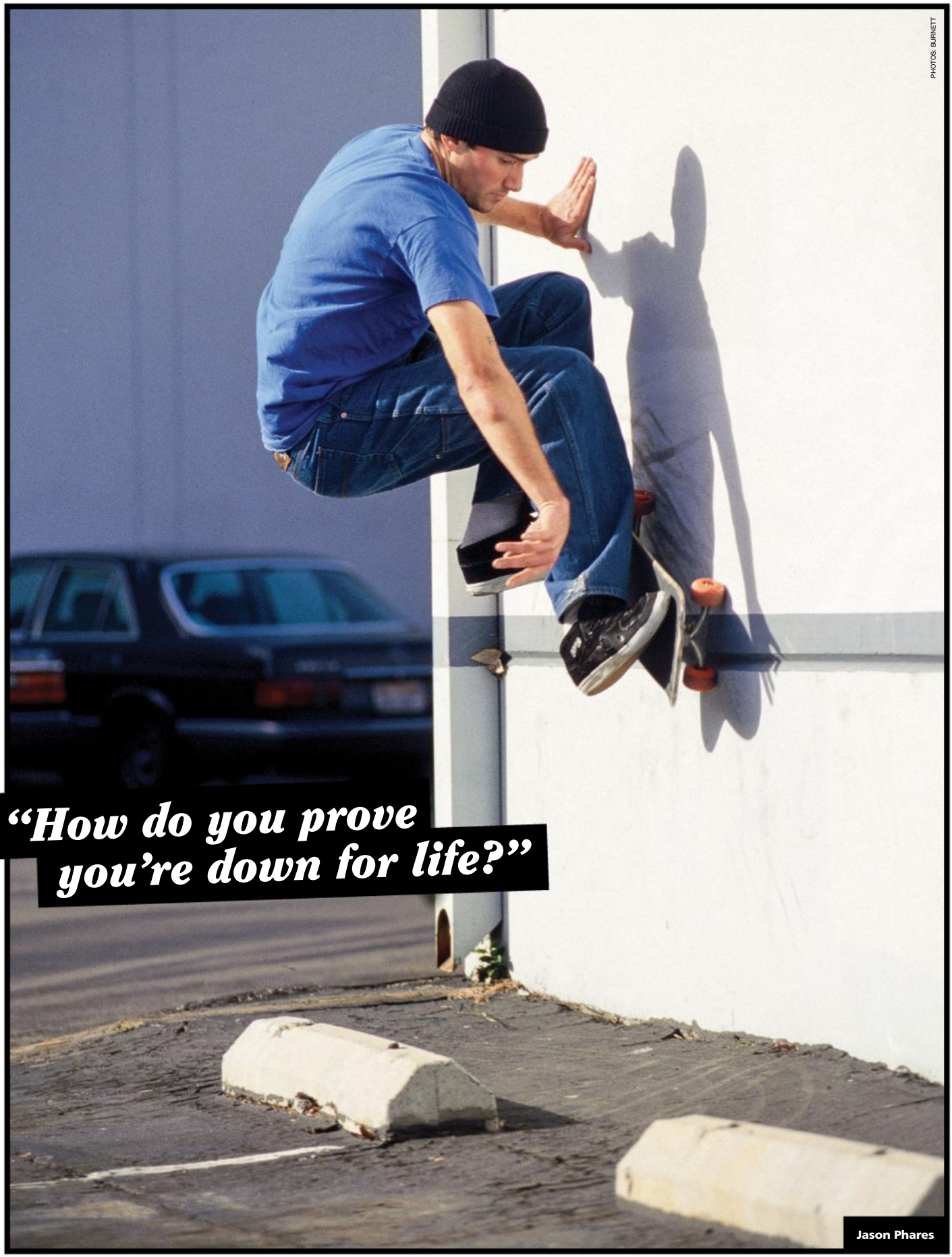


"REAL THRASHERS" 1999

Texas Dan

While it's true I rolled in on Jake's vert ramp the day I got the job, it was hard in those early days not to ask myself, "Am I *Thrasher* enough?" In the wake of such larger-than-life types as Fausto, Mofo, KT and the Phelper, how do you prove you're down for life? There's certain expectations that come with working for the only mag that matters, and straight out of college in Colorado (and plopped into So-Cal, practically enemy territory at the time), I rarely felt like I was repping the mag the way I imagined my tough-guy, no-bullshit forefathers did. I mean, did Mofo ever get stood up at a ledge by Caeser Singh? Fortunately, I had two friends move out west around the same time as me, fellow Midwest refugees and as dyed-in-the-wool thrashers as you can get. Jason Phares and "Texas" Dan Sharp dreamed of California their whole lives, and once there they sucked up every bit of the skateboard experience: pool missions, hill bombs, all-nighters, purposefully-misspelled tattoos—these guys weren't thinking about it, they were living it. Tex, who up until very recently claimed to have "never read a book, never ate a salad," took me to bail out bowls and ride vert ramps, while Jason, who moved up to SF (eventually skating for Real and working at Deluxe), was my old friend in a very tough town. Some of my most ridiculous and harrowing nights in The City were spent trying to keep up with him and his dangerous cohorts.

I know that *Thrasher* means a hell of a lot to a lot of people, and I know that my interpretation of the mag doesn't always sit well with some of the faithful. I'll never be the Phelper. I'll probably never get the tattoo. But having Jason and Tex around in those formative years was a living, shredding, often-barfing reminder of what skate and destroy is all about. When I think of what it means to be a real skater, I'll always think of them. —*Michael Burnett* ♠



PHOTOS: BURNETT

"How do you prove you're down for life?"

Jason Phares

HUF
HUP
PER
2
PETER RAMONDETTA
HUF

JEREMY LEABRES
HURRICANES THE SHIT OUT OF THIS HUBBA
Photo by: RODENT
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NO SELFIES
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DARREN NAVARRETTE

A peak inside the vampire's vault…

THAT'S MY SHIT

LOSI BOARD

When I first became friends with Losi in the '90s, he came over and saw that I had his board on the wall. He was stoked I had it, so I asked if he could sign it. He said, "Fuck yes!" When he was signing it he said, "Darren, you rule. What up?!" When I looked at the deck I saw that it just said, "Darren you what up!" Ha! I love you, Losi!

DUANE PETERS' PADS

Duane is Duane and, well, what can you say—he's punk as fuck. The first year we did the Rumble in Ramona ramp jam he drove his car to the ramp and it's been sitting there ever since—maybe really close to the piss corner. So eight years later I decided to look in the trunk to see if there was anything dead back there. Sure enough—his pads!

NEIL BLENDER BOARD

Found in a far away vault known as Bob Pribble's house, this hand-painted Neil Blender board may or may not be the exact board Neil rode in the Terror at Tahoe Contest. Definitely a holy grail to me.

JAPANESE MASK

I like old things from different cultures. This mask is from a trip we went on to Japan. Sure, I could have gotten the new Pokémon phone case or the most advanced technical device like a fish tank that also turns into a TV, but I got this old handmade mask to ward off evil spirits instead.

MIDDLE FINGER

Ah, yes, my coveted Super Bowl ring. First place Combi Contest Masters Division 2016. To tell you the truth, I wanted this. Justice in my life is all I asked for. I don't need to be a champion time and time again. But once? Yes, please and thank you so much! The rad thing is after I won this contest a very competitive skater came up to me and put his finger in my chest and said, "Next year I'm coming for you." So I said, "No, no. I won't even be here next year."

GUNS AND SHIELDS

This is a small collection of my powers and defenses that sit very close to my bed. Some people like the AK semi-automatics or the full automatics. But I say if you need to shoot something that many times then—well, good luck on living yourself. The zombies are probably going to win in the apocalypse anyway. Sometimes I sleep with these items after watching a movie about aliens or something scary.

I WAS A TEENAGE SKATEBOARDER

This is Creature's first video ever from 1994 and I was fortunate enough to have a part in it. And now here I am today, fortunate enough to once again have a part in the new Creature video.

PHOTOS: RHINO

ZAPOTECA MASK

This mask comes from the land were my father is from: Oaxaca, Mexico. This is a part of my culture and my ancestry—some of my people if you will. But yes, I love this stuff very much. I pray to the four winds.

NAVARRETTE BOARD

This one is kinda embarrassing, but when I was a kid I wanted to have my name on a skateboard—so I made my own model.

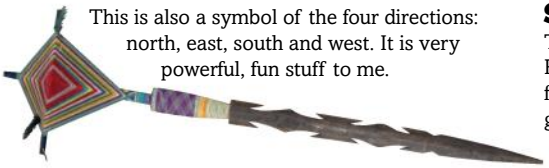
New tricks like this "Dual Tap?" That's the Vamp's shit, too

"Sometimes I sleep with these items after watching a movie about aliens or something scary"

KID'S SHIELD

It's obvious that I like old weapons and that all started from when I was a little boy. We went to the Renaissance Festival and I saw these shields. I wanted one so badly but my dad said no. I was bummed all day. But when we got home he made me one. Way radder.

HANDMADE CRAFT FROM PERU



This is also a symbol of the four directions: north, east, south and west. It is very powerful, fun stuff to me.

VINTAGE CREATURE SHIRT

This ringer shirt is from one of the first boxes Creature ever sent me.

JEFF PHILLIPS G&S STICKER

This sticker was made for Phillips to enter a contest riding for G&S. This was possibly going to be the graphic for his pro model. Never happened. These stickers are very rare. I'm stoked to have one.

JAY ADAMS' ART

This is a drawing of me skating that JA made for me when he was locked in jail. It says not to worry; Jesus has great things in store for me. Pretty fucking rad. Jay, I thank you. ♠

THE
SOVEREIGN SECT
OF ALIEN WORKSHOP
MONTANO TO THE AWS TEAM.
WELCOMES
SAMMY
(SAMMY MONTANO)
ALIEN
WORKSHOP
Crooks Transfer Trinh

WILLY LARA | FRONT BLUNT

PHOTO: KEVIN DENNING

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HOCKEY

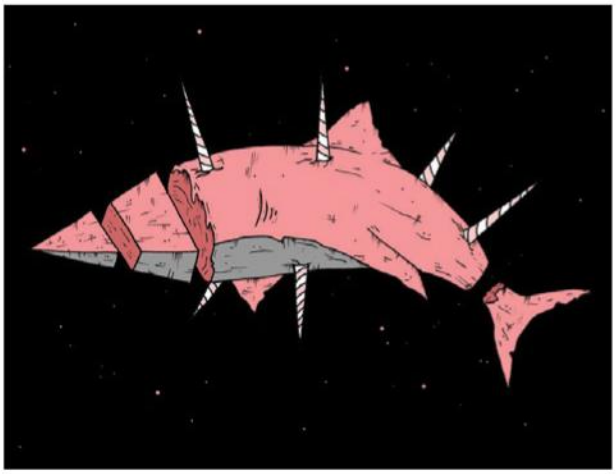
SANDY PERAZA

WALSH

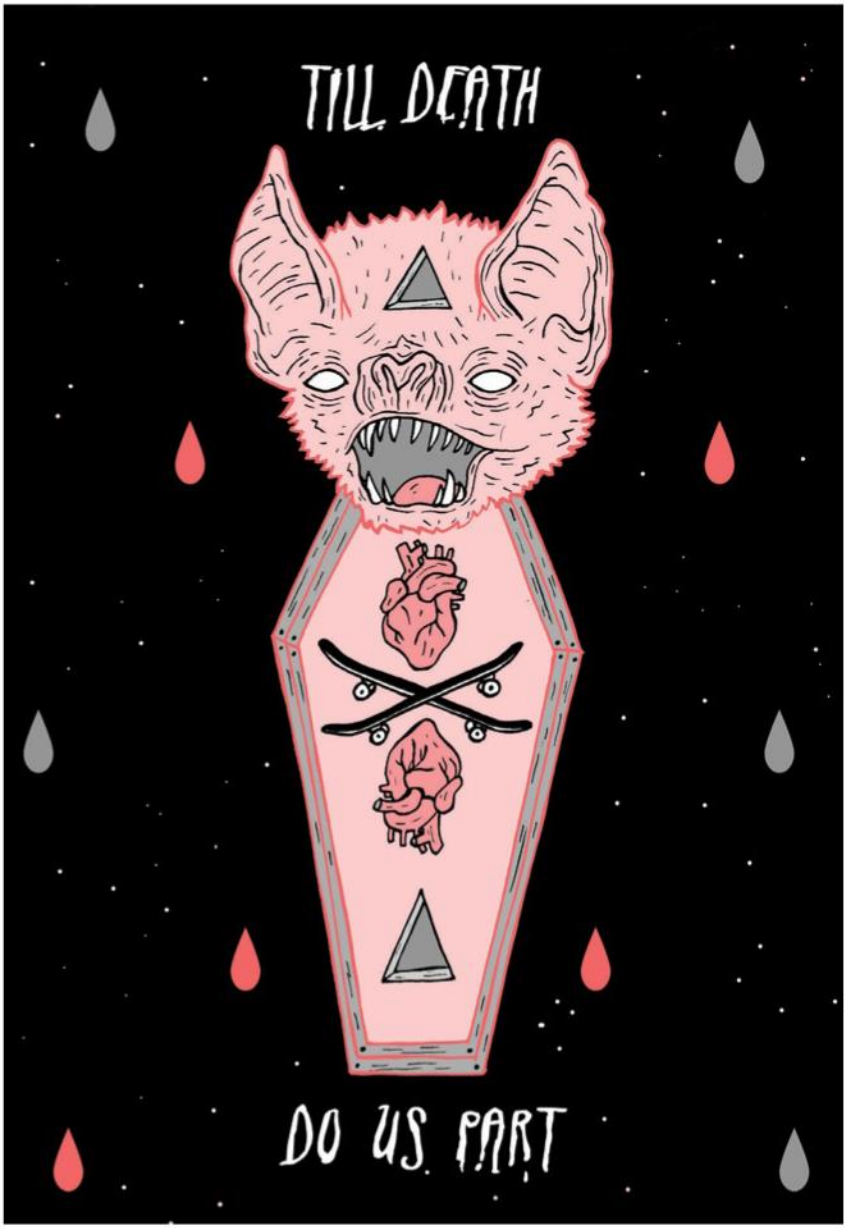
What happens when you see a death metal skate cat slashing your backyard pool after licking up enchiladas and PBR? That wasn't a dream. You just met Sandy Peraza; bad-ass girl skater and illustrator. Hailing from Cozumel, Mexico, this 26-year-old Oregonian mamasita knows how to fall hard and keep rolling. Don't let the sweet color pallete of her art fool you—the hues of

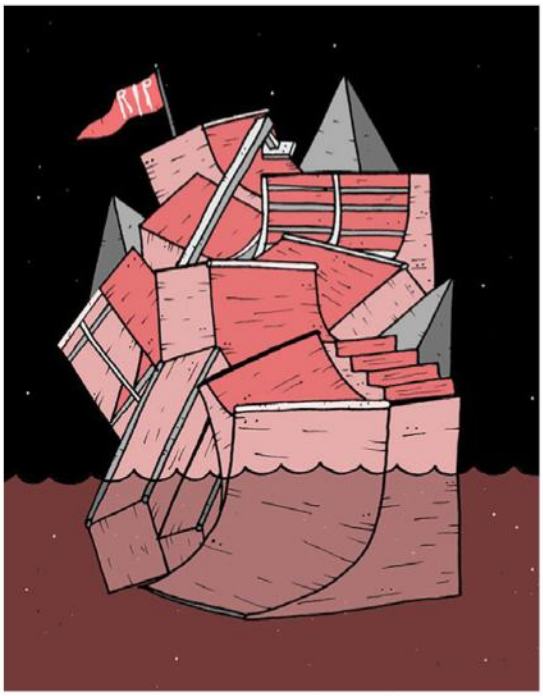
"Don't let the sweet color pallete of her art fool you"

pink, grey and black sugarcoat the morbid mix of reality her art expresses. Her art obsesses on a progressive combination of cats, death metal, cacti, drooling over pools and her right to skate and rage. Throughout her work, the pink hues remain a constant color scheme. They represent the battle against breast cancer, which is a tribute to Ms. Abrams, Sandy's mentor and favorite high school art teacher who is in a continuous fight. Check out this skate-cat illustrator's surreal mix of reality and dream come true. —*Jen Minor*♠



CHAPIESS.TUMBLR.COM INSTAGRAM: @SANDY_PERAZA


TILL DEATH
DO US PART


RIP

ON THE SEARCH

CARLOS RIBEIRO

HARDWARE

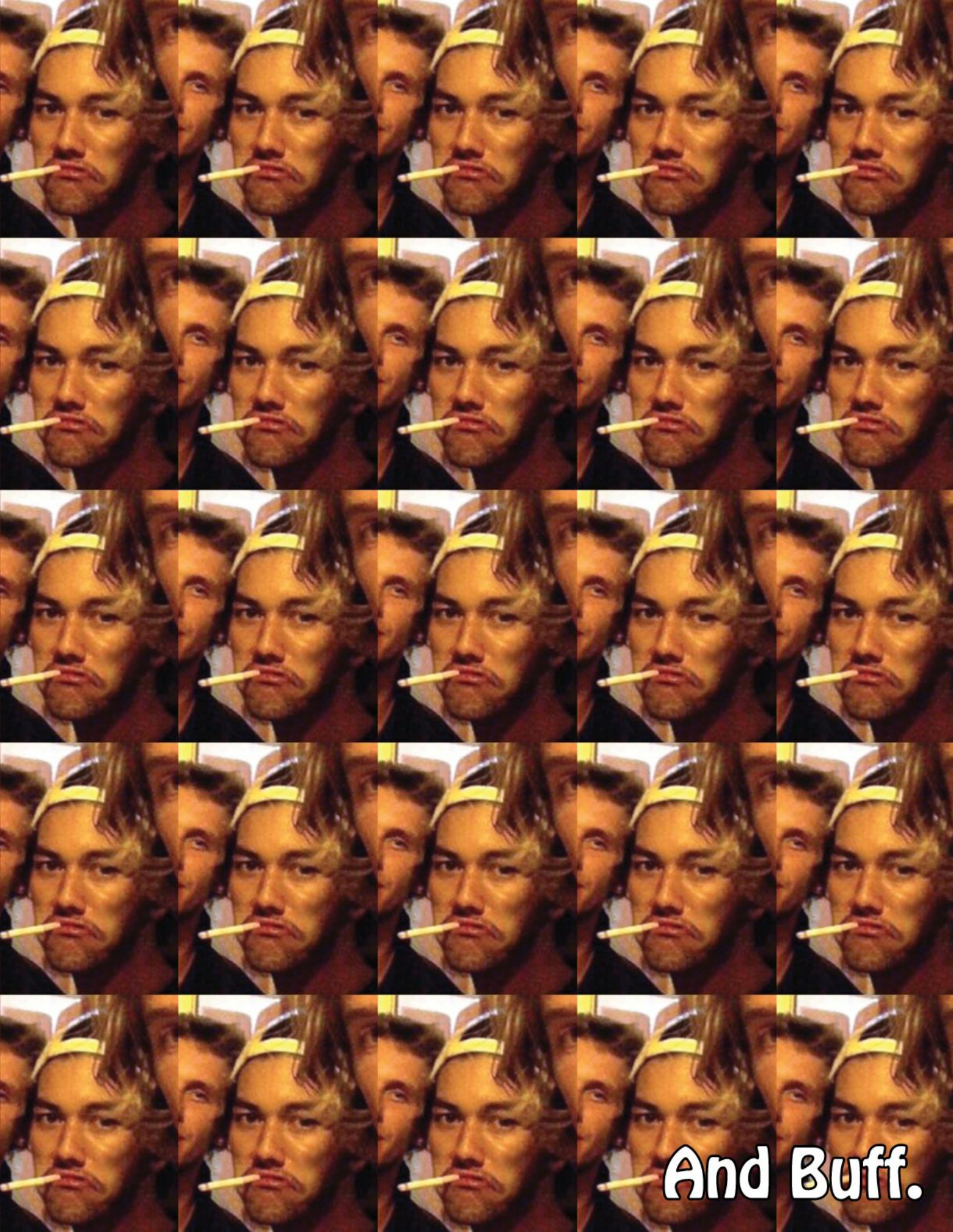
HEAVYWEIGHTS

SINCE 1998

Diamond

SUPPLY CO.

BRO
STYLE
Jeremy Leabres is Super Hot.


And Buff.

Kickflip to the street

EVANS

This was definitely the biggest thing I've ever kickflipped. I was visiting Cali from New York and wanted to get as many clips as possible. We were at J Kwon at night and I ran up a couple of times and it looked possible. I thought I could do it. But when I went there to actually try it, it was daytime and it looked like it somehow extended. It looked way longer. I was, like, "Yo, I don't know if I can do this." The first four times I tried it I almost clipped. But after I caught the speed for the fifth try I actually landed it! The first one I stuck was the one I landed. Honestly, I was just more hyped on not falling than I was on landing the trick. I was, like, "Yes! I made it without getting cut!" After that I went to an 11 stair on Wilshire and switch flipped it. —*Shawn Butler* ♠

CHRIS COLE
INWARD HEELFLIP
PHOTO: BLABAC

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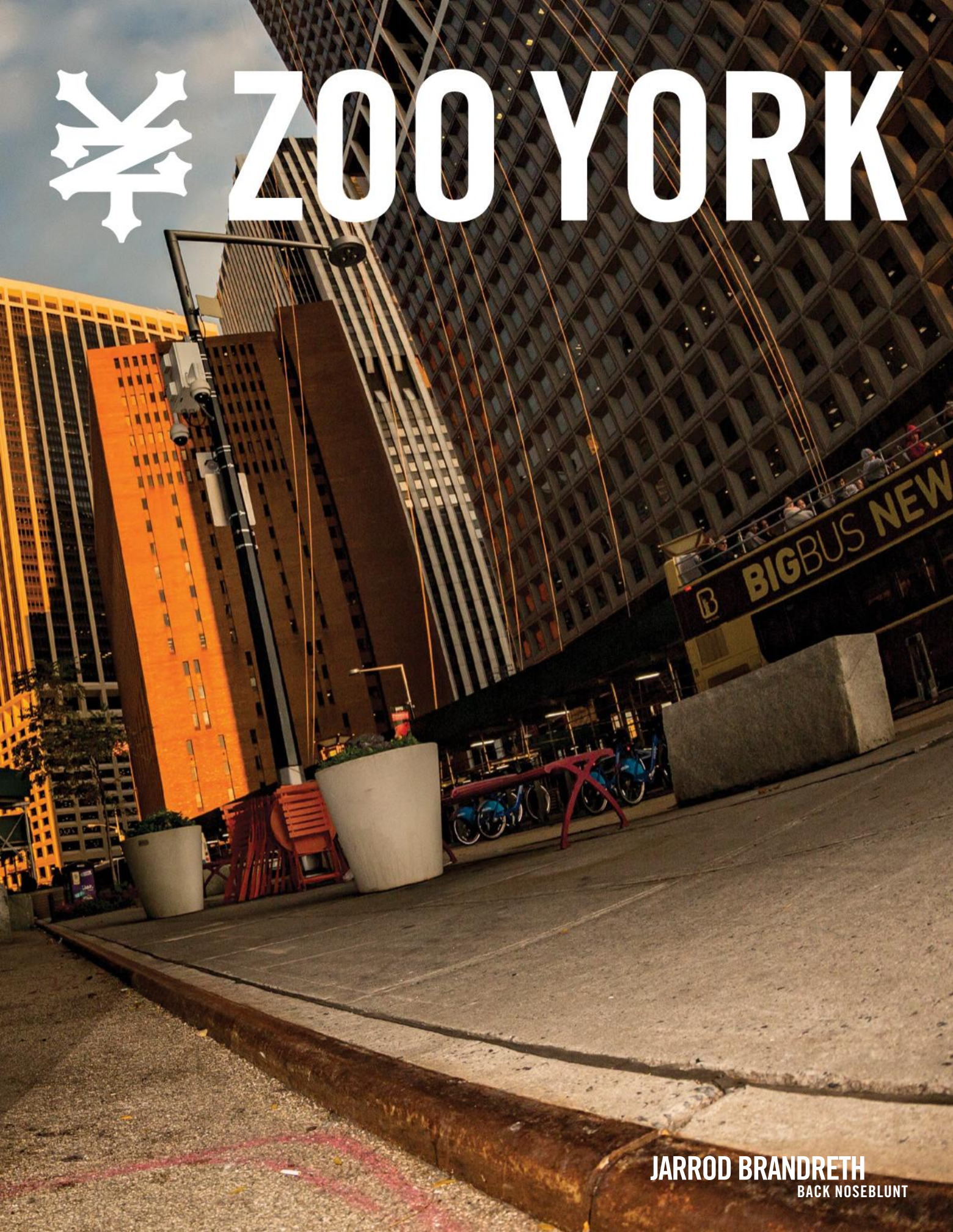
Friends &
Family


ZOO YORK
BIGBUS NEW
JARROD BRANDRETH
BACK NOSEBLUNT

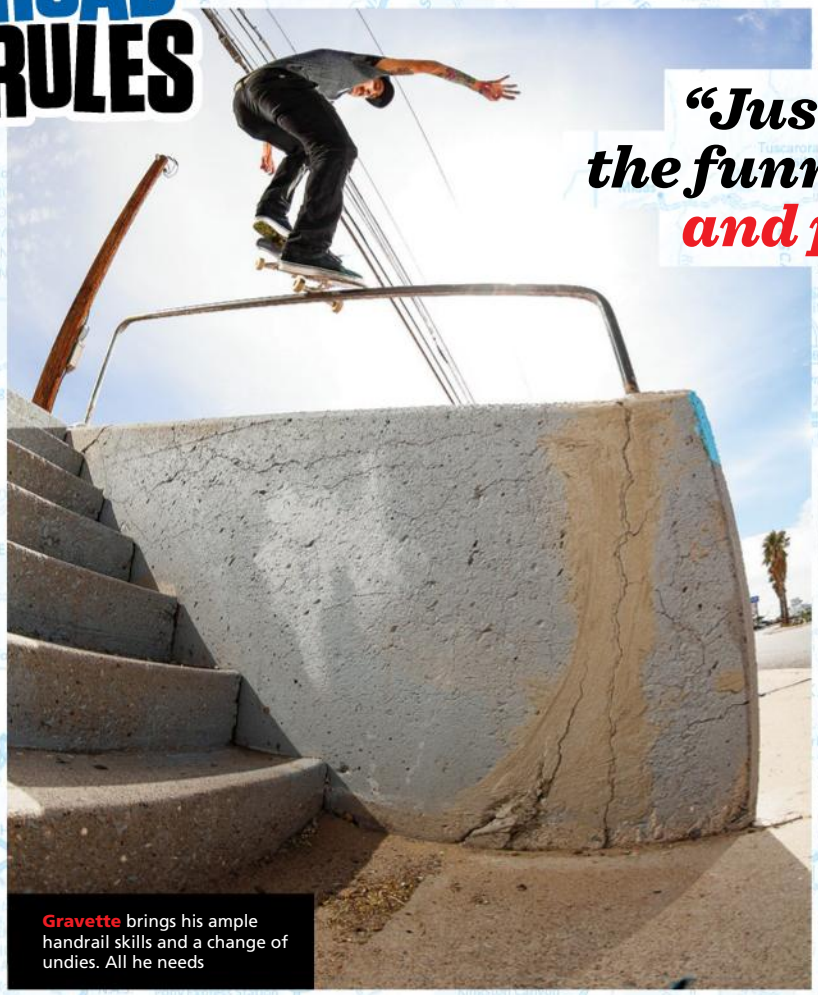
Jimmy's ROAD RULES

SMEAGOLS, SIYOS, & C1RCA ON TOUR

BY JIMMY CARLIN • PHOTOS BY ED DOMINICK

Jimmy's ROAD RULES

Previous spread: Got a tree you need **kickflipped** or a tour article written? You could do a lot worse than **Jimmy Carlin**



Gravette brings his ample handrail skills and a change of undies. All he needs

"Just look for the funniest dude in the van and pin it all on him"

The C1RCA team hit the highway for another spirited skateboarding adventure and, as usual, nobody had any idea whatsoever of what to write about once they got home. Hey, no big deal. This sort of amnesia is pandemic among modern skateboard media. Anyway, we have the cure over at the Bible—just look for the funniest dude in the van and pin it all on him. This technique is known as the "Gerwer Gambit," and it sometimes even works. And, so as not to put any more effort into this thing than the actual paid journalists did, we present a do's and don'ts list we had Jimmy Carlin text over the day before this thing was due at press. Thanks, Jimmy! Enjoy!

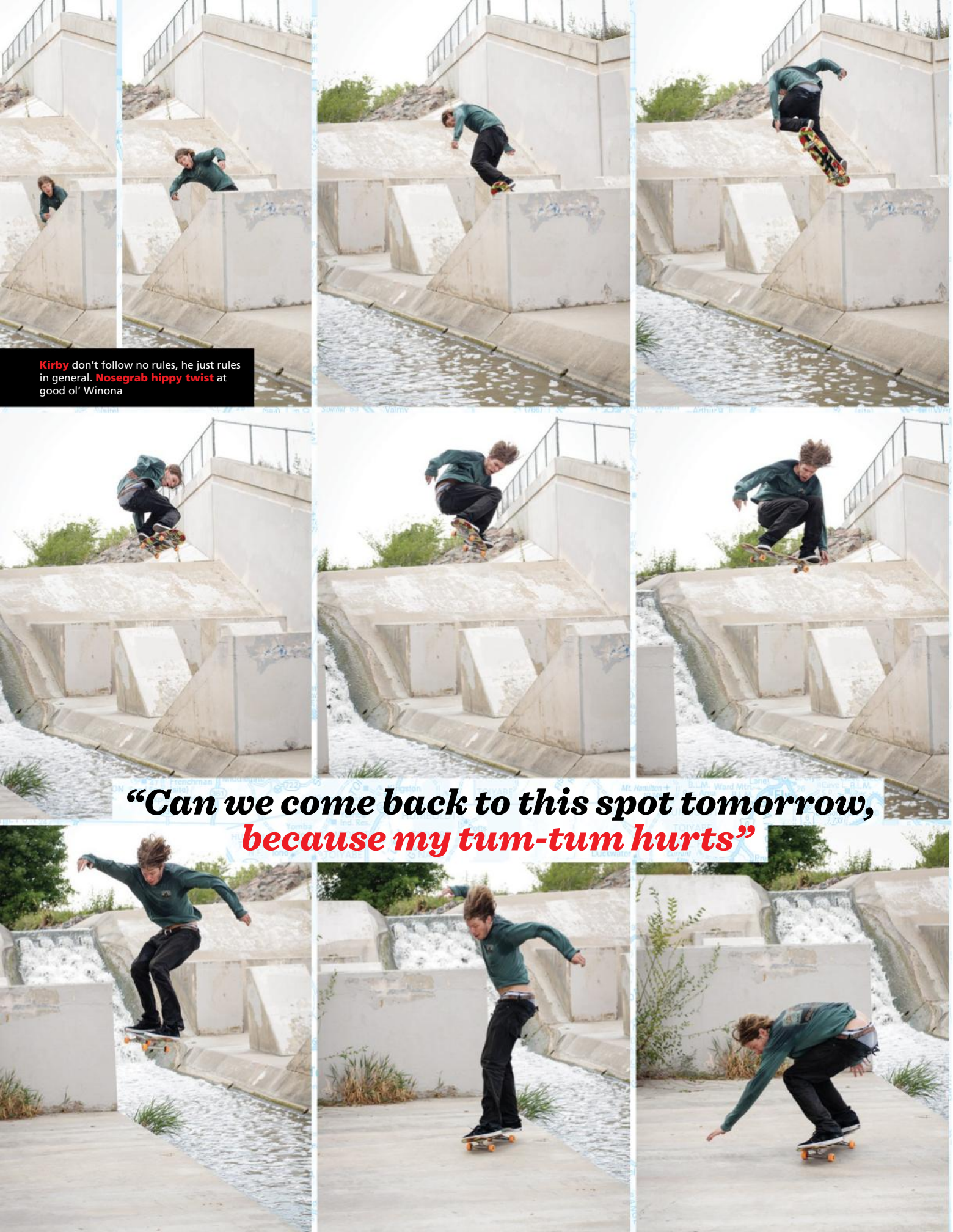
PACKING FOR THE TRIP

This is a skate trip not a cat walk. If you like hats bring one. If you like video games bring a Gameboy. Keep your bag as small as possible.

VAN SEATING GUIDE

Live by the rule of SIYOS. This stands for Stay in Your Own Seat and it is crucial. From the psychosis that emerges from, "Where's my weed?!?!" to the, "Where did my wallet go?!?!" these are common scenarios that happen and no one is to blame but yourself if you are not keeping consistent with your seating. Well, technically there are two to blame. SIYOS and there won't be any problems.

If this was a **Heelflip** Rules article **Neen Williams** might actually be overqualified. Sailing strong on a five-down, three-up



Kirby don't follow no rules, he just rules in general. **Nosegrab hippy twist** at good ol' Winona

"Can we come back to this spot tomorrow, because my tum-tum hurts"

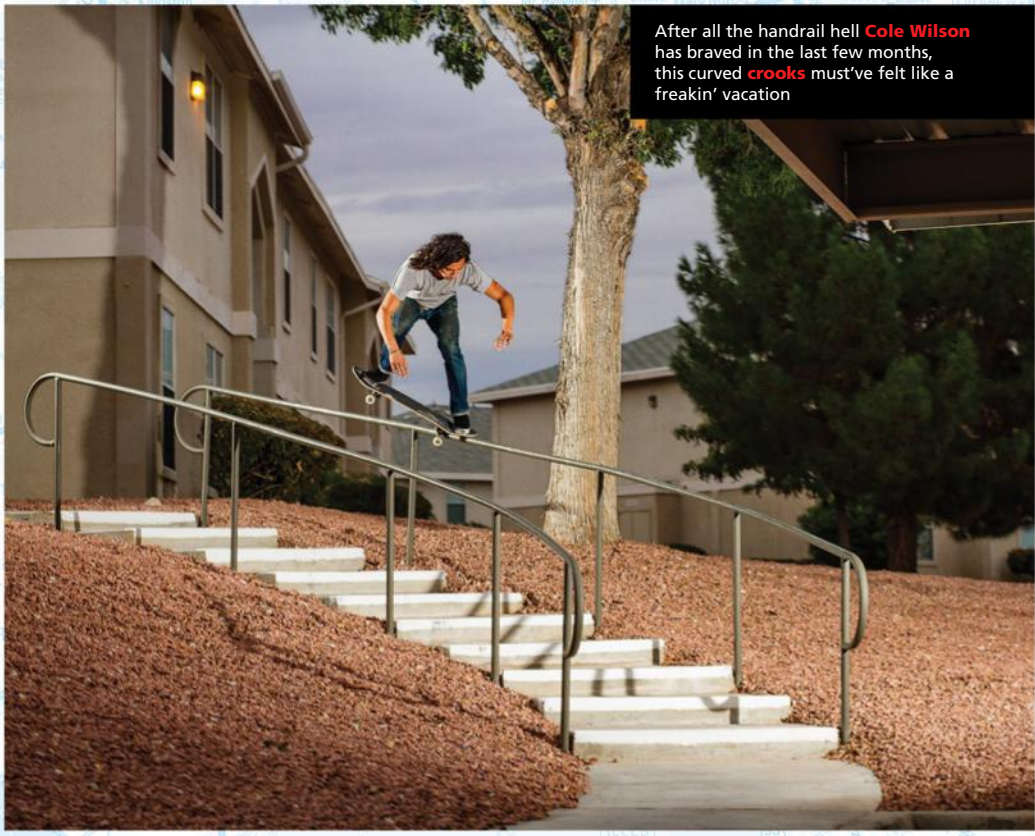
Jimmy's ROAD RULES

PLAYING DJ

As long as there is no scary, yodeling hip-hop, Trump music or Dane Cook comedy hour everything will be just fine.

SNACKS

Eat bananas and nuts. I wouldn't recommend eating a fast food meal unless you have to. No one wants to be the guy that says, "Can we come back to this spot tomorrow, because my tum-tum hurts." Upset tum-tums from poor diets have been a standard plague for many on skate trips, including myself, sadly.



After all the handrail hell **Cole Wilson** has braved in the last few months, this curved **crooks** must've felt like a freakin' vacation

PETS!

I like when people bring dogs on a skate trip. I would love to see someone bring a cat, though. You could sabotage your teammates to get sick! It seems everyone and their daddy is allergic to those fuzzy things. You would be the "I-feel-great-today-let's-go-to-my-spot!" supervillain.

THE LADIES

Everyone smells, including yourself. You're in a van most of the time and your actual downtime is in the same van or another Bunghole Inn. There is nothing majestic about yourself in these living situations which also goes for the troglodyte that wants to hook up with you. If you must, please wear a condom.

Big Rig **Robbie Brockel** gives this rail a sporting chance, attacking it from the side without stairs on a tall **NBS**

TOOLS AND GRIPTAPE

Bring your own tool but lie to everyone and say you don't have one unless you are at a spot and someone actually needs to use it. Don't give it out at the Bunghole Inn. It will be gone forever. And pre-grip your boards before the trip so you don't waste half the day looking for a razor blade.

ALCOHOL

I honestly haven't drank alcohol for a few months. It makes me feel crappy in the morning, because I am 31 and it's supposed to. I see a lot of people drinking and it seems to not affect them the same way. Just "do you" I guess.

NUDITY (WITHIN ADULT SETTINGS)

You've decided to get naked on your walk home with your buddies from the bar? Sure, go for it—at your own risk! I wouldn't sleep naked on these trips. I would think that the creatures that have slept in the hotel beds before you on these types of trips are a lot different than the ones who have slept in the hotel beds of, let's say, a Nike trip. Keep your pants on. And avoid the comforter at all costs.

Jimmy's ROAD RULES

TOILET TIME

I don't like to be rushed when using the bathroom. It's hard enough to go number two when traveling, so why rush it? This is what I do: I take a shower at night, wake up and drink a few cups of coffee in the lobby. Next, find out if everyone is eating at a Starbucks or a sit-down restaurant. If it's Starbucks, use the lobby bathroom while everyone else is getting ready to meet at the van. If it's a sit-down restaurant, order your food then go use the bathroom. Usually by the time I come out of the bathroom the server has just put my meal at the table. This allows your roommate the bathroom to himself in the morning and you have the right to your throne in the evenings.

SPOT COURTESY

Frodo is good at gaps and not rails. Gandalf is good at rails and not gaps. Frodo shouldn't try switch double laser heels down the gap Gandalf wants to skate and Gandalf shouldn't try nollie heel Smith body varial out on the rail Frodo wants to skate. Though there is always the Smeagol who is good at everything and thinks every spot is as precious to them as the last and their hunger for the next precious keeps them trying tricks all day and all night, sometimes you've gotta just sit down and let the other guy have a shot. Whatever. Just remember—you are all precious in my eyes.

"Keep your pants on. And avoid the comforter at all costs"

Off the hip, over the canyon, **Kirby** one-ups the hottest spot in the ABQ with a **kickflip** no less

Life is bigger than skate tricks, but **Kirby's** El Paso **bluntslide** is still pretty damn ginormous. Yer killin' it, Kirb-Dawg

Jimmy's ROAD RULES

Newer guy **Jack Olson**, off the phone, blasting a **switch varial heel**. When in doubt, listen to Jimmy

"Life is bigger than your skateboard maneuvers"

OLDER GUYS

Try not to compare how bad this trip was compared to the other trip you went on. Enjoy it for what it is.

NEWER GUYS

Get off the phone with your girlfriend because they will make your trip not as enjoyable as it could be. Trust me. I have experienced this before. Get along with people. Life is bigger than your skateboard maneuvers. Remember that there are a lot of people stoked to see you, hang out with you and skate with you so have fun and don't be weird about it. That's all. Thanks for listening! —*Jimmy* ♠

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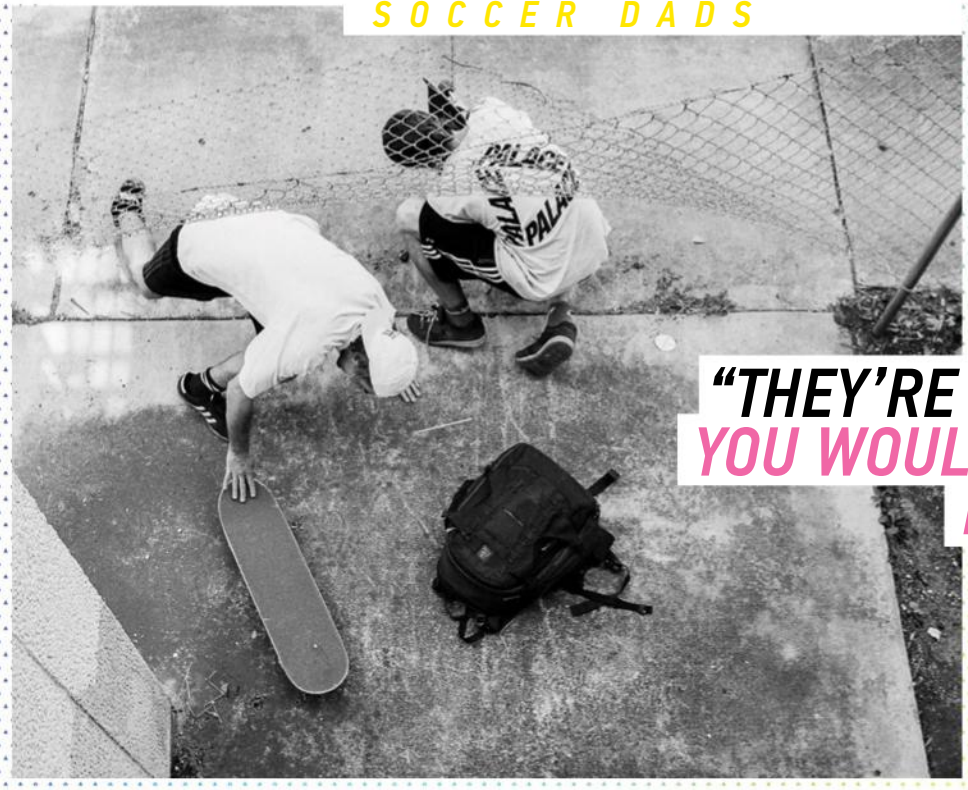
DARYL ANGEL

SCAREDY CATS & SOCCER DADS

PALACE IN MIAMI
WITH JAMAL SMITH

BY JONATHAN MEHRING



"THEY'RE DUDES THAT YOU WOULD SEE AT A RAVE IN 1997"

Ithaca, New York's Jamal Smith came up the old fashioned way: talking shit on the Internet and absolutely decimating a two-foot-tall quarterpipe. No wonder UK fashion upsetters Palace took him into their fold. Another lightweight trip to Miami by would-be Euro look-bookers? Nah. Jamal breaks it down for us plebeians.

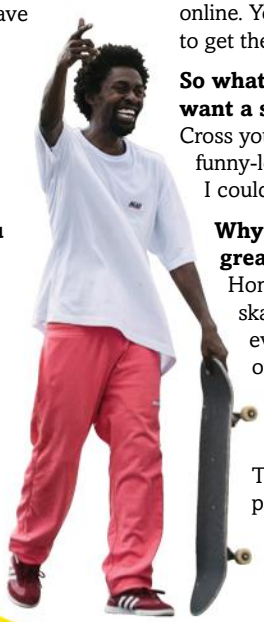
How would you describe Palace to a skater that had never heard of the brand? What's their vibe?
They're dudes that you would see at a rave in 1997 wearing flared-out Jnco pants and spiked-up hair with funny sunglasses, possibly trying to sell you something.

How do they differ from a regular skate brand?
They'll curse you out in Instagram comments and they pretty much break all the rules that major skateboard companies have established over the years.

Like how so?
Like having to be good at skateboarding to get on the company.

So if you don't have to be good at skating, how do you get on?
Look cool as fuck. Just put out that aura of coolness and luxury that attracts all of the masses outside of skateboarding.

So their audience is kinda a non-skate audience as well.
Yeah, man, it's universal, you feel me? Palace is for everybody, man: for rappers, for models, for dirty skateboarders—psych. But, nah, know what I'm sayin'. It's for everybody.

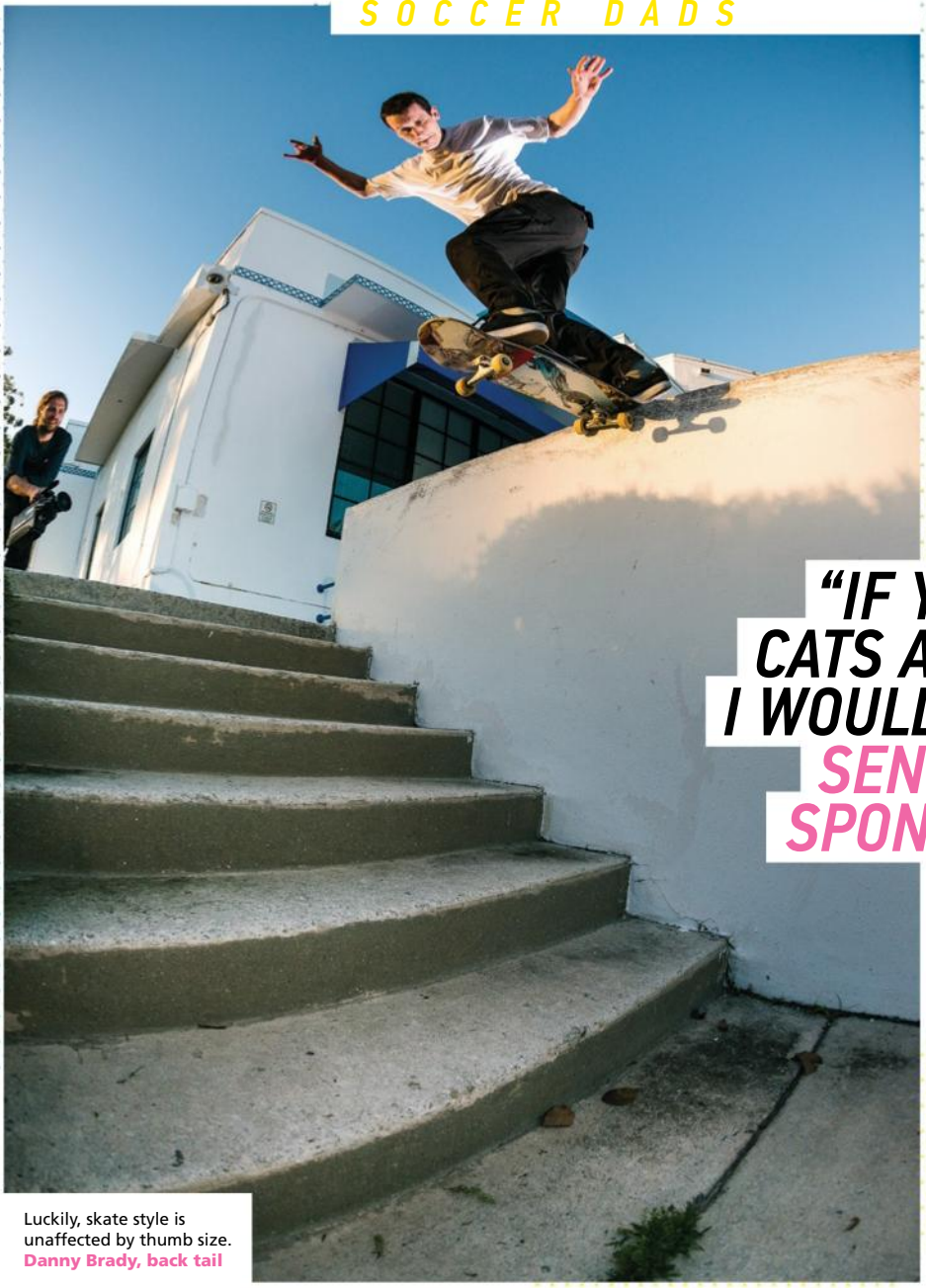


So in your case, how do you go from skating quarterpipes in the Rust Belt to riding for Palace?
Shit, man, I have no fucking clue. Every time I'm with these fools I'm, like, "How did I get here?" These motherfuckers don't even speak normal-ass English. They're calling chips crisps and stuff. I think it's just talking shit online. You gotta have that shit-talking ability to get their attention.

So what should kids do out there if they want a seat in the van?
Cross your fingers and put together some funny-looking outfits. That's the best advice I could give you.

Why do you think the appeal is so great for a brand like Palace?
Honestly, just with the way skateboarding is right now and how everybody wants to be a part of it—outside of skateboarding—they're the coolest fucking dudes. Like, if you saw them at a party, those are the dudes that you'd want to be around. They're just honestly way more on point with their marketing, with the way they go about it. It's just Palace, dog. Triangles. Niggas love triangles.

It was too hot for the full pink tracksuit so **Jamal** had to go half salmon on this **varial heelflip**. Still pretty luxurious



Luckily, skate style is unaffected by thumb size. **Danny Brady, back tail**

So what kind of people tend to wear the gear outside of skating?
Fuccbois.

When you're wearing it, who stops and asks you about it?
Normally dudes that should probably be watching baseball or something. But it's cool. I mean, girls too. Girls be, like, "Damn, boy, that's a nice pink outfit you got on." And I'll be, like, "Yeah, I'm on Palace. You better go follow them niggas on Instagram. Get me that check."

Were the South Beach guidos feeling it?
Hell no, man, they were jealous as hell. They didn't know what to do with niggas on the beach in full track suits and shit.

Let's talk about the crew; who was on the trip?
Oh God, putting me on the spot! I'll remember everybody's names off the top. It was me, Danny Brady, Benny Fairfax, Lucien Clarke, Chewy Cannon, Rory Milanes, the best filmer in the world: Brooks, Michael J. Fox, Charlie Young, you. Dude, I feel like I'm forgetting so many people.

There was one more. I'm looking at the list. He didn't stay with us. He stayed at a hotel.
And motherfucking Blondey McCoy.

It's understandable because he wasn't around that much.
That's the bro, dog. That's my little brother.

What's up with Blondey? Why didn't he stay at the house?
From what I hear Blondey does not fuck with cats like that. I guess he's afraid of cats and there was seriously an army of cats at the house, so it was fully understandable why he would have a hotel. And that hotel looked nice as hell. Fuck sleeping in some summer camp shit when you can be in a mansion.

Is he allergic to cats or is he literally scared of them?
He is legit deathly afraid of cats, and I feel kinda like a dickhead putting him out there for that but you asked the question. Don't be mad at me.

"IF YOU LIKE CATS AND BANANAS I WOULDN'T RECOMMEND SENDING YOUR SPONSOR-ME TAPE TO PALACE"

Have you seen an example or is this just hearsay?
This is 100-percent true. One day we were skating and he was in the van and we all came back to the house. He was getting an Uber back and before the car got there a cat appeared and he jumped in the back of the van, where I was sitting, and blocked me in the van for five minutes. I had to be, like, "Bro, can I get out of the van?" It was funny but I felt bad for laughing, 'cause I'm afraid of random shit too.

How about Chewy?
Chewy is my main man. I love him but I also love bananas so it's hard to hang out with him because he's afraid of bananas.

Are you kidding me? Blondey's afraid of cats and Chewy's afraid of bananas?
Yeah, man, we've got a pretty sick crew. If you like cats and bananas I wouldn't recommend sending your sponsor-me tape to Palace. That's gonna be a conflict of interest with the team. We got a pretty spicy crew. Everybody's got a lot of personality.

Talk about Benny.
Benny's the smooth assassin. He just be getting tricks or chillin'. It's one or the other. He's awesome.

And Lucien?
Oh, that's the fuckin' social-media king right there. That's the model.

Benny Fairfax assassinated this bump to bank with a killer **kickflip**. Then—straight back to chillin'

How about Brady?
I wanna punch that motherfucker in the head so bad. He's got these stubby little thumbs. They're crazy looking. If you ever meet Danny Brady, shake his hand and pay close attention to his thumbs.

Tell me something about Rory.
That's honestly my favorite dude on Earth right now. Great human. He knows so much about music, about art, whatever. He's the coolest dude.

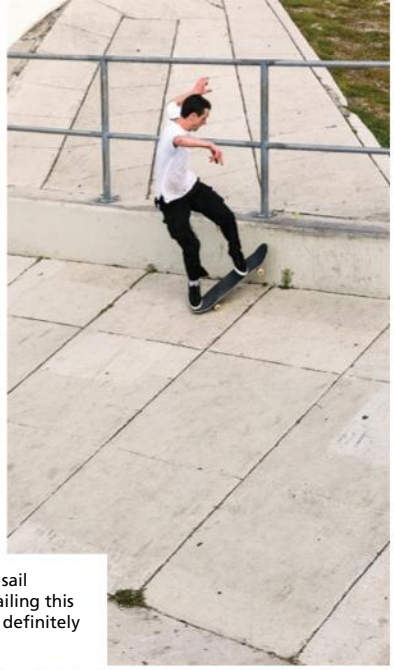
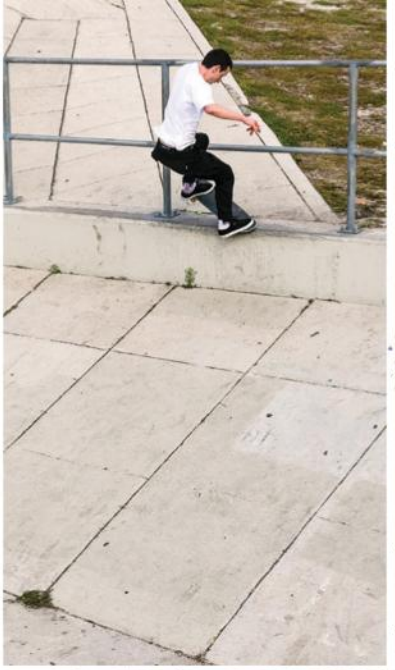
And lastly, Charlie and Brooks?
Charlie is the godfather of swag and steez. His outfits are amazing. His hair is done perfectly every day. He's got great sideburns. And Brooks, I wish he was my brother, my actual brother. I keep saying that everybody is the best, but he's the best of the best. I smoked all of his weed and he didn't care. I would have murdered somebody if they smoked all of my weed, but he just knows me like the back of his hand. That's my best friend.

Tell me about getting Internet famous. Do people call you out on the street often? What video gave you the most attention?
It really all started from just posting videos on YouTube back in, like, '06. Honestly, it spiraled completely out of my control. I never even really wanted to be a part of the skateboard industry shit, and now y'all motherfuckers just swooped me into this shit show. But it's a weird situation. I think the video that clearly gets the most love is the tight as fuck video calling out Wade D and his funny haircut and stuff. But over the years it's been all over the place from the tornado spin video to videos I did with 10. Deep talking about Honey Buns and shit. Seems like these videos have stood the test of time, for YouTube videos at least 'cause motherfuckers forget about YouTube videos 20 seconds after they come out.

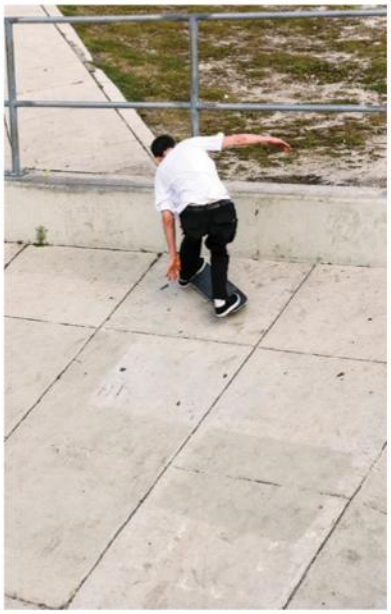
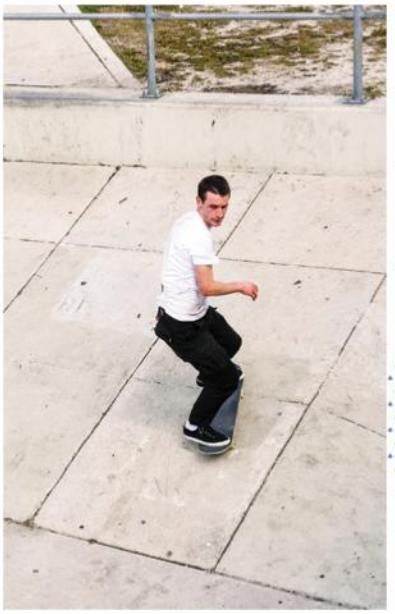
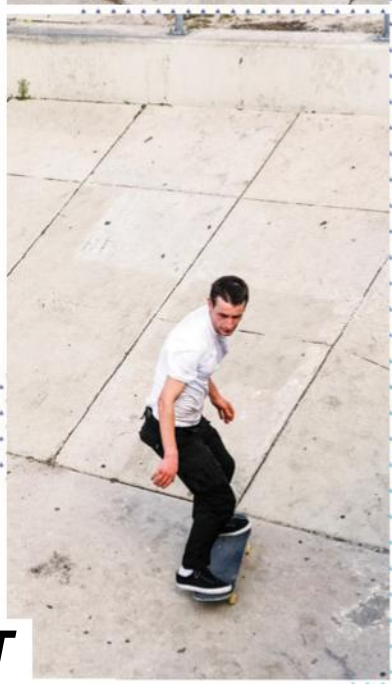
So now that you're kind of established along those lines do you feel pressure to produce more?
Hell no, nigga! I got a day job. Y'all better just wait, for real. I ain't in no rush. Watch Al Davis. That niggas tight.

So what happened with Eric Koston?
Man, this motherfucker did the tornado spin nollie, so it wasn't even the tornado spin. Motherfucker's posting it up. I can't let motherfuckers bite my shit like that. Like, I'm comin' atcha neck. You can't even come to Ithaca and do it? That little-ass quarterpipe? Nah, dog, it ain't going down like that. You ain't disrespectin' my name. You better put some respect on my name.

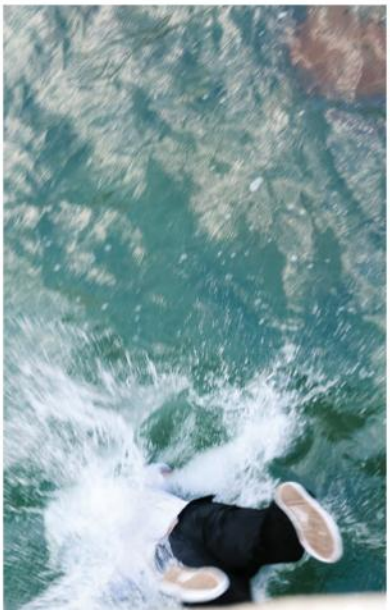
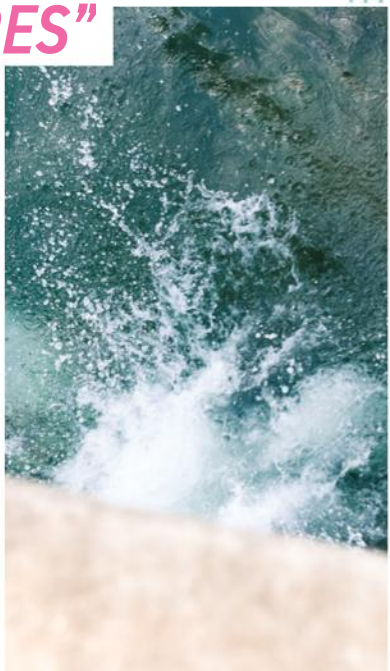
I actually didn't personally see the exchange, so what happened? He posted it and you called him out and he got bummed?
Yeah, man, they posted the tornado—it

No one had any idea **Brady** was gonna sail headfirst into rock-filled waters after nailing this **frontside 180 fakie 5-0**. The trick was definitely sick but the dive was downright gnarly!

"I WOULD LIKE TO RUB YOUR FEET AND POSSIBLY SUCK SOME TOES"

Rory Milanes, switch crooks over the mulch. That back foot says it all

wasn't even a tornado. That shit was like a heavy wind gust spin. They posted that shit on Crailtap and at the time I was just young and hungry and I was, like, "Nah, man, this motherfucker ain't stealing my trick like that." So I just had to let them know what the streets were saying to me. And it was that that niggas wallet was gonna get stolen again if he came to Ithaca, but he never came to Ithaca, so—

So do you miss that quarterpipe?
Hell no, man. I skated that shit for four years straight—only that quarterpipe. I got recurring nightmares about that quarterpipe.

I can relate coming from Virginia. Were there tricks that you never quite mastered that you wanted to?
Yeah, kickflips and the art of seducing women with my words.

Well, I'm surprised you haven't gotten that one down yet. Now that you're on Palace, have you been inducted into English culture? Are you eating beans and toast every morning?
Hell no, man, I'm still on my Popeye's and ramen noodles shit. They ain't never gonna convert me.

What happened with the Spanish-speaking girl you hooked up with?
It was a normal Tinder success story. I went to Madrid with the Dime homies and the whole time they were getting their skateboard clips, I was just trying to mingle with a woman who doesn't speak English and see if I could succeed in relations. And I downloaded the app. and I just started swiping. Just, hmm, that's a nice looking girl, right swipe. That's a nice girl, right swipe. And so on and so on. Then I caught that match.

How many swipes did it take?
I would say 46 'cause I didn't catch a match for, like, two days and shit.

That's some dedication.
Yeah, you gotta have thick skin for the Tinder game. But we matched up, started talking—very broken conversations 'cause she didn't speak English—and essentially I just said, "I would like to rub your feet and possibly suck some toes," and she was, like, "Bet." Came through, a toe or two got sucked and the rest was history.

So do you speak Spanish at all?
Hell nah. I don't speak shit.

So how did you communicate? Did you use Google Translate?
Yeah, Google Translate and then when it came time to meet it was just pointing at things and smiling a lot.

The language of love, huh?
Yep. It's universal, man.

Was this your first time going to Miami and what did you think?
Yeah, it was my first trip to Miami and it was actually amazing. I had never really wanted to go there and I came out dark as shit. The sun fucked me up and I loved it. Honestly, getting away from the winter was the number one goal and Miami was the best place to do it. Going to the beach, swimming in the ocean for the first time—seriously, it gets no better than that.

How is it that you've never swam in the ocean before?
Well, I'm not sure if you've noticed but I'm black. And big bodies of water, that's not our go-to. So most of the times when we're in nice places I'm just chillin'. Y'all can go to the beach. I'm going to go smoke on the beach and look at y'all in the water. But I could just already tell in Miami that the water looked so clear and so nice that I had to go in it. Those waves fucked me up; it was sick.

How big were the waves?
Dude, like, ten feet. Nah, they were probably like one foot at the most. But it was enough for me to literally think that I was going to lose my life three or four times.

Can you swim?
I've got a nice doggie paddle.

Did you have any fears? When you went to the beach, did you know you were going to get in the water?
Nah, I had no clue. Honestly, last minute I was just, like, "You know what? Fuck it. I got some swimming trunks. I got a towel. I'm about to just do it, because I can't be the only dude on the team who doesn't go in the water."

That's just a bad look for America. All these English men out there hopping in the water and I'm just watching.

I don't think I've ever seen somebody smoke a J in breaking waves before.
Yeah, that was honestly one of the moments that I'll remember when I'm on my death bed. Like, ahh, smoking Js in the water and then that shit getting hit with the water and losing it in the ocean. Hey, it was worth it.

How was staying at Danny Renaud's place?
Oh God, that shit was like chilling on a little circus play farm. It was amazing. I love animals and I love nature so honestly that was the highlight of the trip for me, just being able to post up with mini ponies and mini goats and pigs and shit. He's got the best mini ramp on, like, an acre of land. If I ever get this Popeye's sponsor and they guap me out with millions I'm buying an acre of land and getting a mini farm. Danny Renaud has fully inspired me to live that country farm life.

What kind of animals did they have there? Give me the rundown.
The pig, a mini goat, a mini pony, a bunch of chickens, four dogs, six cats, wild iguanas, I saw a manatee.

Right, 'cause there was a canal behind the house.

"WELL, I'M NOT SURE IF YOU'VE NOTICED BUT I'M BLACK"

Afraid of cats but not of heights, **Blondey McCoy** boosts a tall wall with no pussies in sight

Purple reign! **Lucien Clarke switch back tails** into the sunset

Yeah, and I was just smokin' weed and looking at the water, like, damn, this is a Bob Ross painting. Then it turned into some Steve Irwin shit with fuckin' manatees going across the water. I was scared. I was, like, "Can these things go on the land? 'Cause this shit is big as fuck."

How big was it?
At least the size of a Hummer, like, the first Hummer.

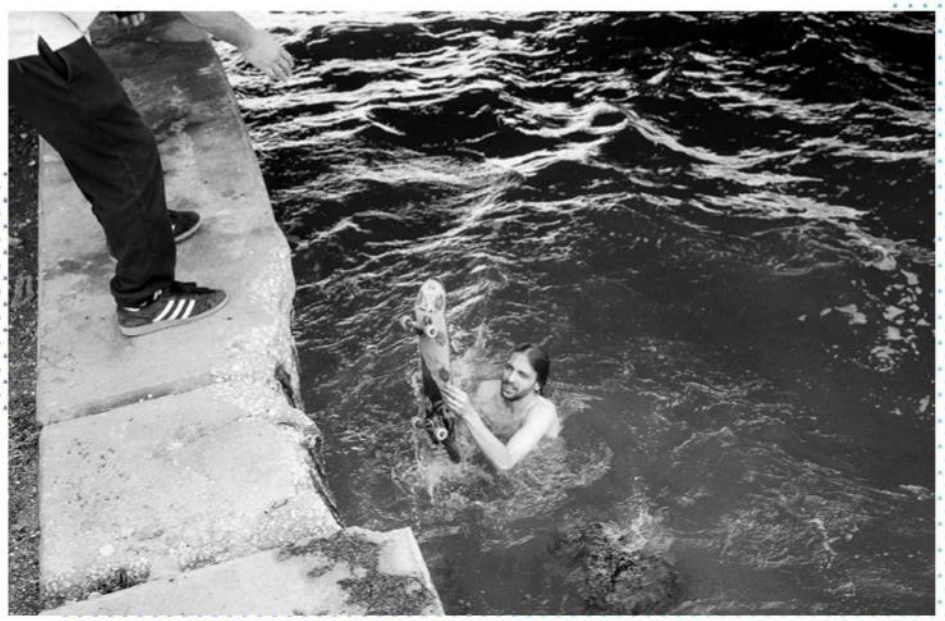
Tell me a little big more about that pig.
The pig's name was Rebecca. That was my main squeeze. Her hair is very, very rough, and really all she wants is food but once you give her some food she doesn't even really fuck with you like that. She just dips off. She stays in her little double-decker barn with the goat and the mini pony and they're just like an ill trio. They always roll together. If you see the mini goat, you're going to see the pony or the pig. They definitely squadded up.

And the pig had free reign around the place, right?
It seemed that way. There were so many times I went to get orange juice or something and the pig would just be grilling me as soon as I opened the door. Like, trying to get apples and shit.

Like, in the kitchen?
Yeah.

That seems pretty insane that the pig's in the kitchen.
Yeah, I dropped a spliff on the ground and I really had to think about it. Like, can I put this back in my mouth with pigs running around and shit? I still smoked it and I'm alright now.

What did you know about Danny before you met him?
Well, I'd met him in Philly in, like, '08-'09 and I'm a big skate nerd so that dude's honestly a legend in my eyes. *Mosaic* was one of my favorite videos growing up. That dude's just held down Philly, Florida, wherever he's gone he's been one of those dudes that you had to pay attention to. His style was fucking crazy. And just the whole shit that he went through, falling off a roof and then being able to skate, that's some truly legendary shit.



Safe

"I'M NEVER DRIVING AGAIN BUT THANK YOU FOR THE EXPERIENCE"

Rory test drove this back Smith on the interstate. Fortunately, no coconuts were hit

So I guess he lived up to the legend?
Yeah, for sure. Greatest dude. Best dude. He let me drive his car. I've never driven a car in my life. He put that much trust in me. I could've ruined his car.

When did you drive his car?
It was a random morning. One night at a restaurant I was talking about how I'd never driven a car and he said, "Alright, in the morning find me and I'm going to let you drive my car." I smoked, like, three spliffs before seeing him. I was, like, "Man, I ain't driving this car." Fool fully convinced me to drive the car. I drove it around the block, like, ran over a coconut. He was, like, "Don't do that. That'll pop my tire." I was, like, "Alright, I'm never driving again but thank you for the experience."

What was the gun range like?
I'd never shot a gun. I'm a big action-movie nerd so it's always been something I wanted to do. We went the day after my birthday and it was raining so we couldn't skate. Danny Brady decided it was a good idea for us to shoot guns, so he started looking up gun ranges. He found this spot that's specifically for automatic guns, like, the gnarliest fucking *Rambo* guns. We roll through and motherfuckers let us shoot P90s and shit. It was one of the best experiences of my life. I never thought I would be that excited to shoot a gun. But I'm about to cop up, bro. I'm buyin' something after that.

It's no automatic weapon, but **Danny Brady** fired off this **noselide** nonetheless. Can't wait to check that dad-cam angle

"IT'S GONNA TAKE MORE FLATGROUND HEELFLIPS AND BECOMING A MEME AGAIN"

One day. Once the zombie apocalypse starts poppin' off, I'm definitely gonna know how to handle my shit, bro.

Are you filming a lot these days behind the lens as well as in front of it? How long have you been shooting and what makes you want to grab the VHS?
Yeah, I got blessed with a VHS camera the last time I went to London and I had never really filmed before, but honestly it's something I could see myself getting very inspired by easily. Just getting to re-watch shit that you saw in VHS quality is hilarious. Just popping in the cassette and rewinding it is pretty sick. But I lost the camera coming back from Miami so—

How'd you lose it?
Dude, I don't even know. I fuckin' got off the plane, had it in my hand, was waiting for the train to take me back to Center City in Philly and when I got to my house I realized I wasn't carrying it.

Did you lose any footage?
Nope. Thankfully we still got the tape. We left it in Miami and Danny is sending it back to me.

Lucky.
Yeah, dude. Hopefully I get another camera because I love it. Filming is something I could see myself getting into once my knees stop working.

But you've never filmed with a regular digital camera?
Nah, not really. Only VHS. I feel like a soccer dad or something.

Is it like it's so bad it's good or something?
Yeah, dude, it's honestly like watching home videos.

So what's it going to take for you to get a board on Palace?
It's gonna take more flatground heelflips and becoming a meme again.

Did this trip help or hurt your case?
It probably helped but I'm gonna keep acting like I fucked up so it keeps a fire lit under my ass and I keep actually doing stuff. ♠

BROACH

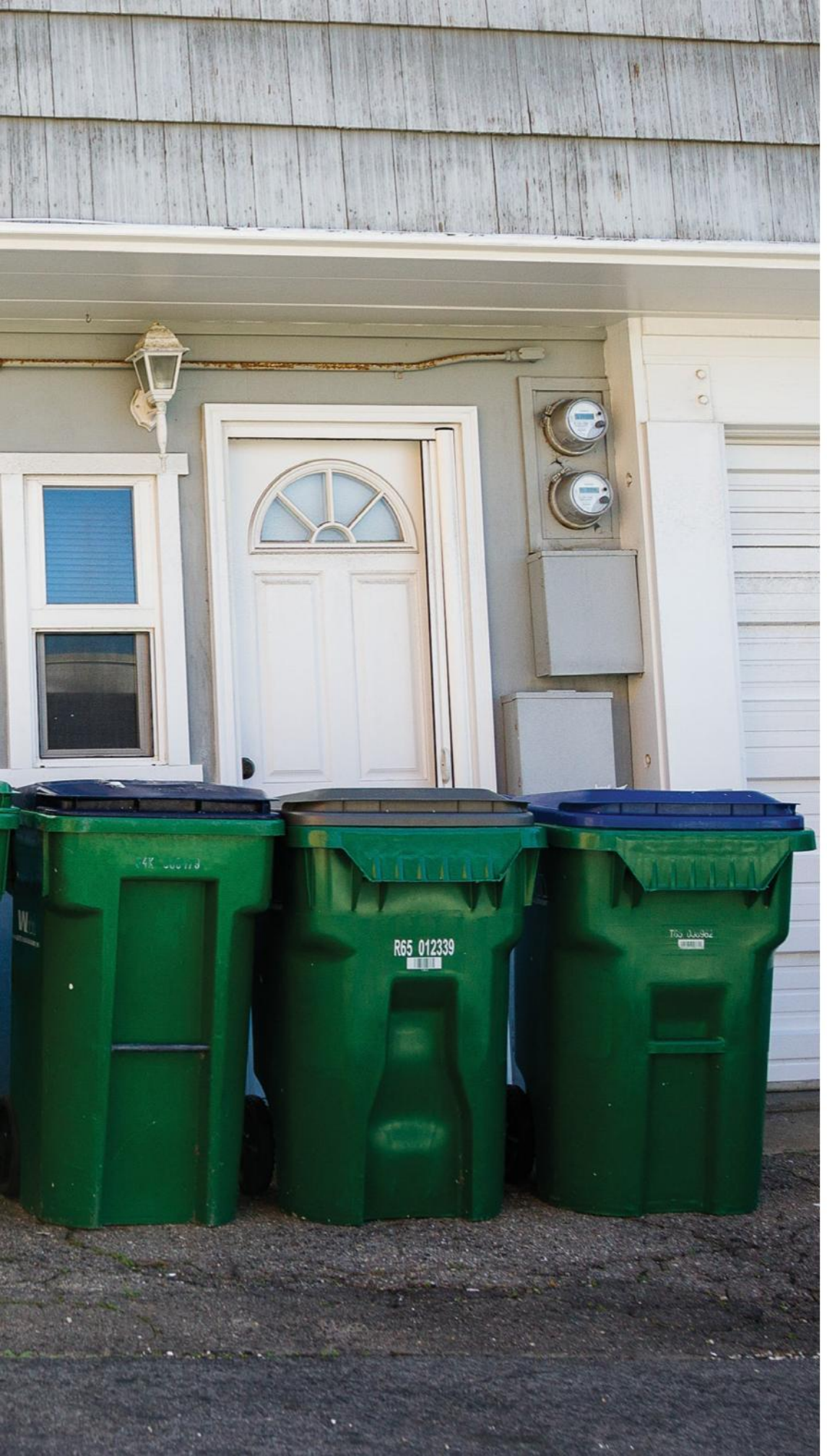
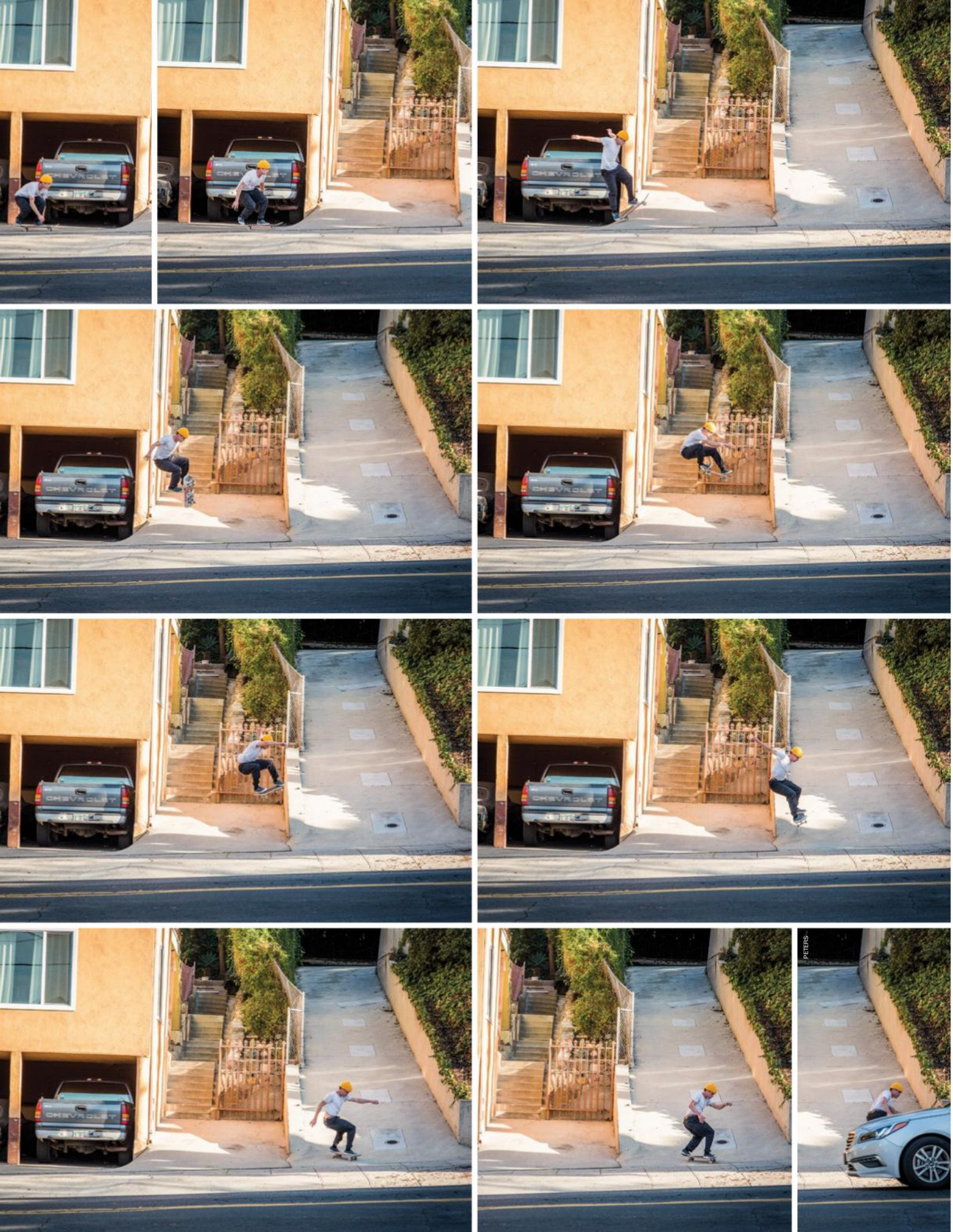


Photo Feature

INSERT EMULSION SIDE DOWN

Tom Karangelov Ollie


CHEVROLET
PETERS

Brad Cromer Pop shove it revert

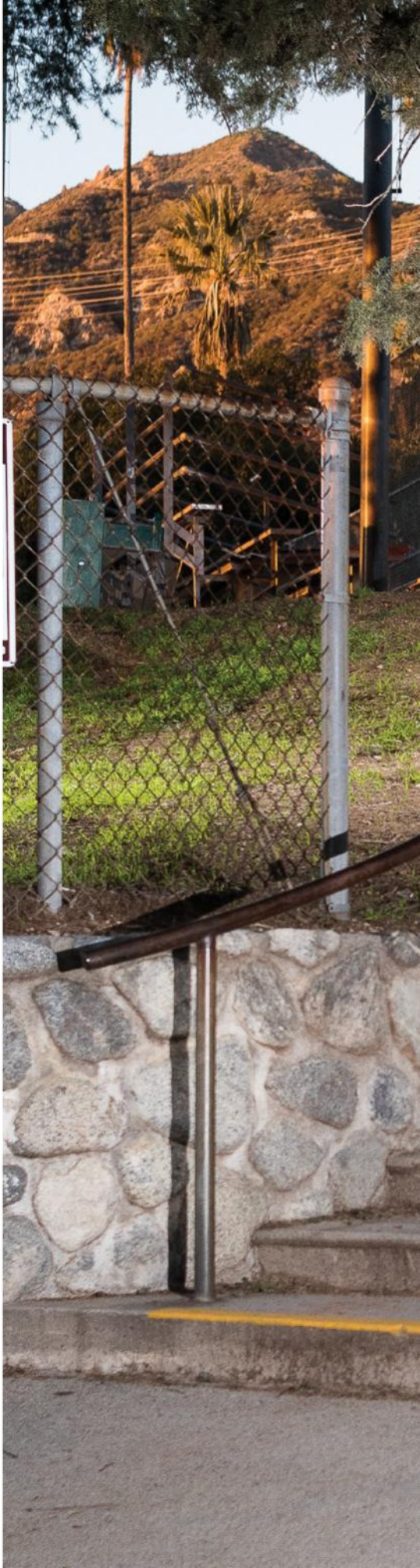
Sammy Montano Switch no-comply to 50-50

KARPINSKI

Kader Sylla Boardslide to boardslide

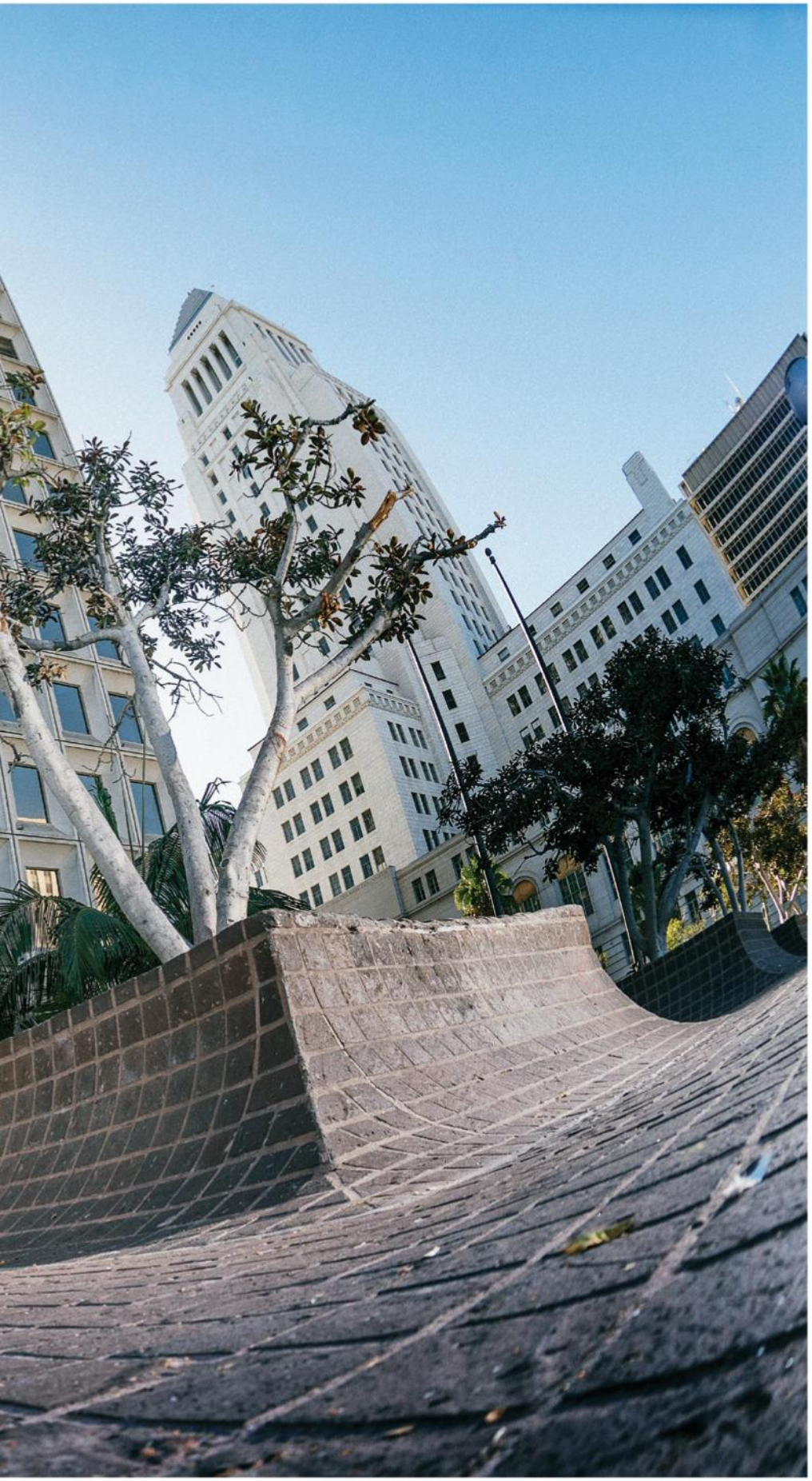
Wes Kremer Switchflip shifty

Jerry Gurney Switch layback



Tyson Peterson Feeble

HAMMEKE



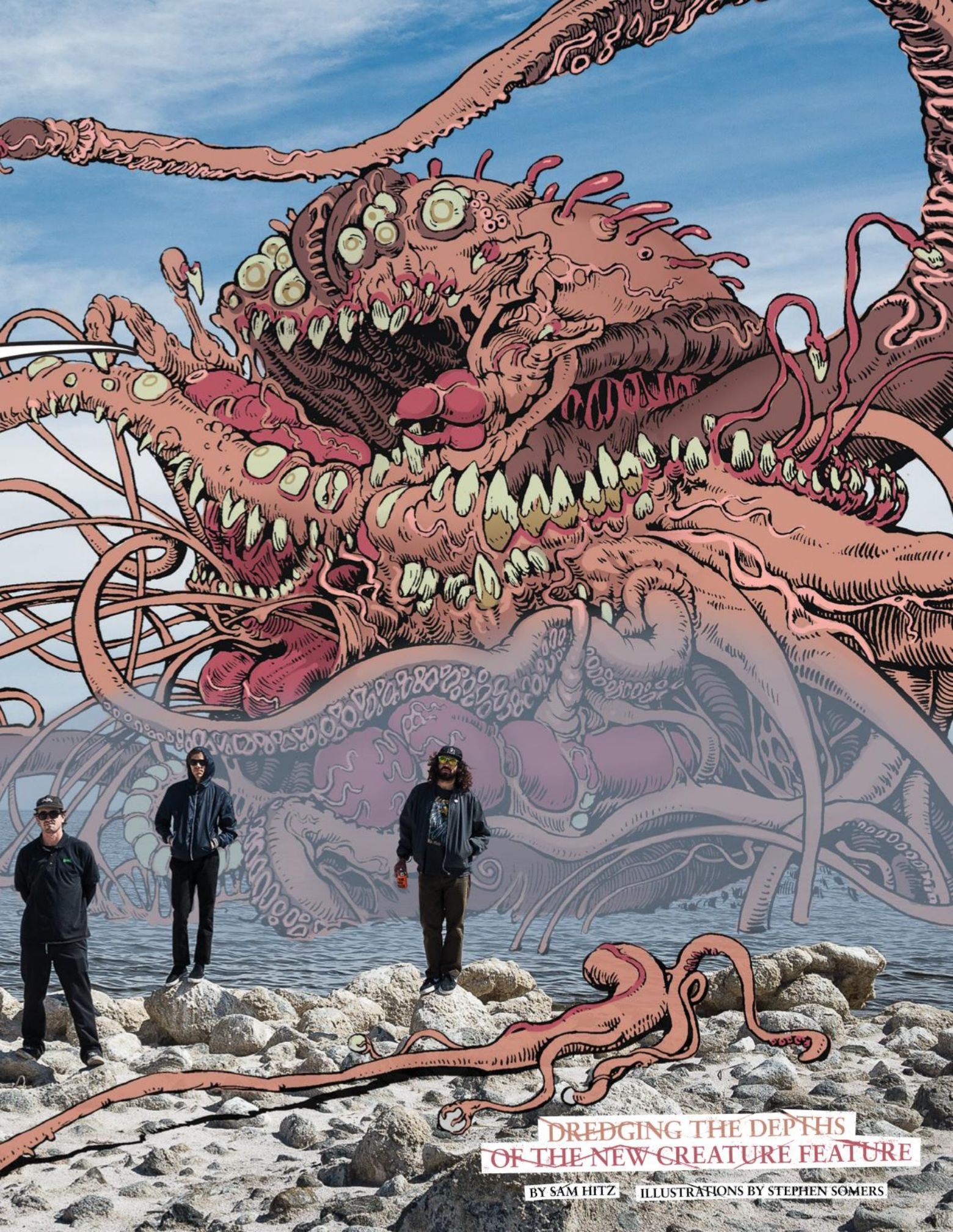
PETERS

Dane Barker Fly out

ZASLAVSKY

Daniel Dubois Overcrooks ♠

BROOK



DREDGING THE DEPTHS OF THE NEW CREATURE FEATURE

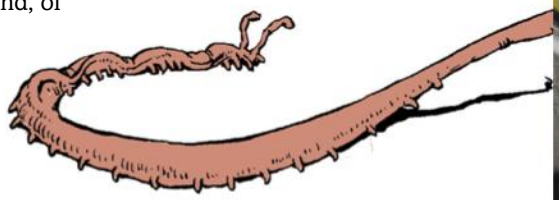
BY SAM HITZ ILLUSTRATIONS BY STEPHEN SOMERS

WHAT VIDEO?

BROOK

Leading the fiends: **Hitz, Navarrette** and **Partanen**

Greetings. Here we are again in the mag. Thanks, *Thrasher*. We love you. Who am I you may ask? For this situation, just refer to me simply as the kook to the left. I'll we be your host for the next handful of pages. Along with my assistants in this venture, we will try to avoid talking about the making of this video as much as possible and instead just graze the interesting qualities of the humans occupying it. And, of course, try to humiliate these dudes a bit (especially the ones to the right) for your entertainment. You're welcome for that. So let's begin not talking about what video? Oh, the new Creature video. —*Sam Hitz*



BROOK

"WE WILL TRY TO AVOID TALKING ABOUT THE MAKING OF THIS VIDEO AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE"

We're making a *what?* **Parts** may plan out his flair, but the pool work? That comes natural. **Back Smith** over the seat, 20+ years after they covered the footy bowl with a PVC flat bar

WHAT VIDEO?

BROOK

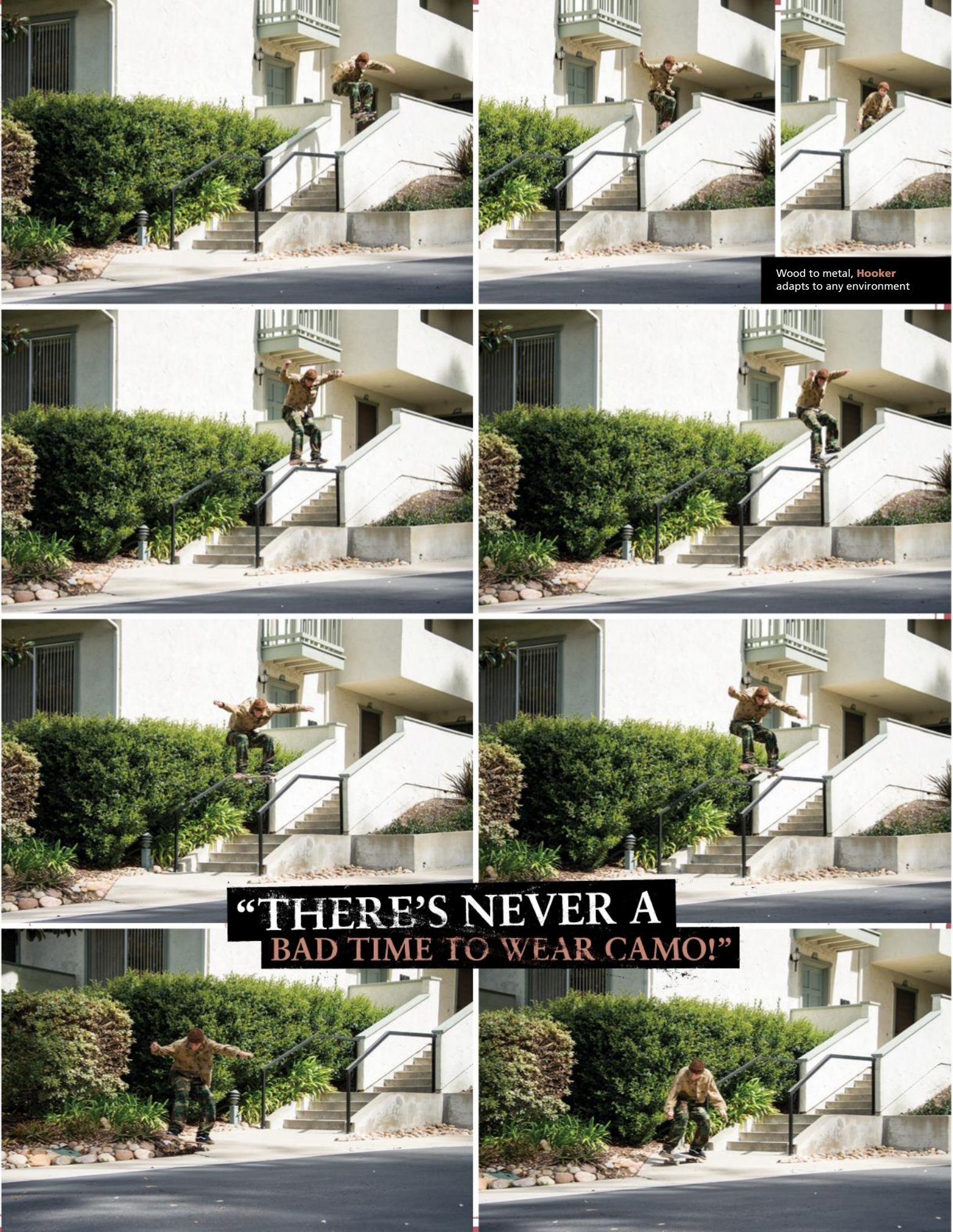
TRUMAN HOOKER'S

CAMOUFLAGE CODE

Are there inappropriate times to wear camouflage?
There's never a bad time to wear camo!

Your sister's wedding, maybe?
Nah, she would be hyped! Camo in all situations.

In court? Where would camo hurt you the most?
Navy dudes aren't too hyped on the camo. Same with cops and judges. So yeah, maybe not in court.



Wood to metal, **Hooker** adapts to any environment

"THERE'S NEVER A BAD TIME TO WEAR CAMO!"

WHAT VIDEO?

"I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT A GHILLIE SUIT IS"

RHINO

Combat boots might help on this neighborhood siege. **Truman**, over the bar then hit the dirt!

Maybe Navy dudes get bummed 'cause you're not in the service.
Yeah, you ain't gotta be in the service to be stealth. There's times when you're just trying to be stealth in this world.

Are you strictly green camo or do you get down in some urban camo?
No. Strictly green.

No desert camo?
Actually, I got on a pair of desert camos right now.

Would you skate in a ghillie suit?
I don't even know what a ghillie suit is.

Snipers wear them on missions. It looks like you're wearing a bush.
Oh, fuck yeah! All day! You never know. A spot could call for it. Full stealth mode. But I haven't gotten to that point yet.

Would you skate in combat boots?
Fuck yeah. I need a photo in combat boots.

Would you rather look for spots in Syria, Iraq or Libya?
Iraq. I've seen the spots. I got the homie Steve McNeal. He's claiming there's spots there.

I wouldn't doubt it. I'm working on getting you there in the trenches. No joke. Have you ever skated with a sidearm?
Negative. It's been close but never attached.

It's not that unheard of if the spot calls for it. Like if you're skating some super hood spot, right?
Definitely not unheard of. The strap has definitely been near.

I've seen dude's in Phoenix skate with sidearms holstered. Real talk. What about that high-visibility or safety orange?
Oh yeah. There's a time and place for all that shit. When you are at a sketchy spot where you need cars to look out for you. And then high-visibility to blend in as a construction guy fixing up a spot. You go high-visibility during the day. You can get away with more shit than you think.

Do you own a hard hat?
Yeah. It works nine out of ten times. You just have to be confident. When people come up and ask, "What are you doing?" you just say, "I'm fuckin' working! Get outta here!"

Name the tools you never leave home without.
Skateboard, sign, Quikrete, Bondo, bolt cutters, scrub stone and Salba sauce.

You got a trowel in the car?
Yep. Three of 'em.

Three favorite obstacles to fix?
Barriers, bank to walls and sidewalk cracks. ♠

Frontside flip, start diggin'

CORY JUNEAU

CEREAL 'N' SHIT

Have you had a bowl of cereal yet this morning?
No. I got up like a minute ago.

Do you eat cereal?
Yeah! Hell yeah.

What kind of cereal are you going to eat this morning?
Some Apple Jacks.

What are your top-three cereals of all time?
Apple Jacks, Lucky Charms, Reese's Puffs.

Do you like Shredded Wheat?
No.

Do you like oatmeal?
Sometimes. Depends.

Cream of Wheat?
Is that a cereal?

Yeah, kind of mushy old-school cereal. You're still young. You still eat candy on the daily?
Not as much. But yeah, a lot still.

Top-three all time candy?
Hi-Chew, Reese's Cups, Starbursts.

Are you a stoner like every one else out there?
No.

How old are you now?
Seventeen.

What music do you have in your ride right now? Any CDs?
No. I just plug in my phone.

What's the top-three bands on your playlist then?
I really don't have a playlist. Just Pandora.

What's your keyword to create a station?
I don't know. I just click on anything.

Well, are you just down with the top 20 or what?
Nah, just like punk or rap or whatever.

All right then. You have to pick one of these three artists and then buy it on iTunes when we're done: Herbie Hancock, Herb Alpert or Harry Belafonte.
I don't know any of those people.

That's the whole point.
I'll go Herb Alpert.

There you go. Darren would like that. Give me your top-three vert skaters from the '80s.
Hosoi, Chris Miller and Lance Mountain.

Nice. You ever hear of Dave Leroux?
Yeah, for sure.

Buster Halterman?
Yeah.

Charles Manson?
Uh, Is that a vert skater? Yeah, I think I heard Darren talk about him.

Yep.
Isn't there a murderer named Charles Manson?

Yeah. He used to skate vert.
Really?

Yep. Who's your current top-three vert skaters?
Jimmy Wilkins, Sam Beckett and Alex Perelson.

Top-three female vert skaters?
Lizzie, Nora—is she a vert skater?

Yeah, she rips tranny.
And Allysha Le.

Would you rather wear P-Stone's road clothes for a week or Darren's flair kit for a month?
Darren's kit for a month.

I hope you like fedoras and native trinketry. Smart decision, actually.
For sure. When was the last time P-Stone washed his clothes?♠

WHAT VIDEO?

BROOK

JOHN GARDNER

ON FLUTES AND RAGE

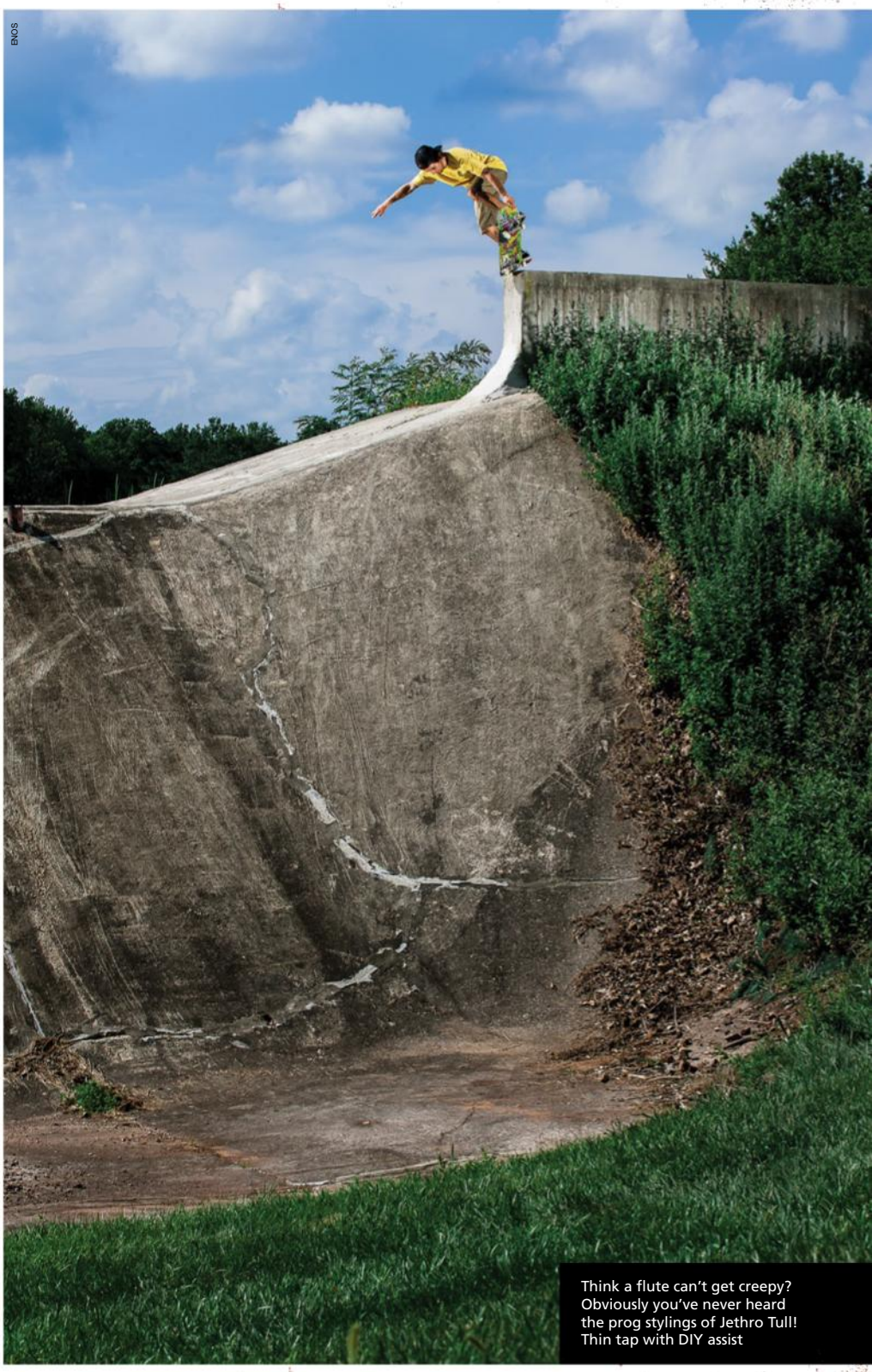
What drew you to the flute?
I would say the wind. I really like listening to the wind and breathing in general. It's a beautiful instrument.

When did you carve your first flute?
Maybe like four years ago. I figured I'm playing 'em, why not make 'em.

What other instruments accompany the flute the best?
A djembe or bongo. An acoustic guitar or a harmonica.

What musical note do you consider represents skateboarding the best?
I would say a flute in the key of C. I don't know much about notes but I now how to feel it.

What's the most frightening note in your opinion?
Maybe a high A?


ENOS

Think a flute can't get creepy? Obviously you've never heard the prog stylings of Jethro Tull! Thin tap with DIY assist

"THERE'S NO FITTING IN ON CREATURE"

Diving board **bone-in**? Looking forward to the footy on this one

Have you ever made your own fishing pole?
No, I have not.

How about a bow and arrow?
Yes, I have.

Did you make it out of necessity? To hunt?
No, just for fun. Pretending I was a warrior, perhaps?

Who do you think is the least musically inclined on the team?
Everyone's got a little music to express. As far as playing, maybe Gravette.

I seen him tear into a mouth harp via Jaws. I thought he took to it pretty well. I was stumped by it.
I could see him getting into that. He's got a lot of soul.

Do you have a favorite flautist?
Yeah, this dude R. Carlos Nakai.

Is that the proper term, flautist?
Yeah, or wind speaker.

I like that. Do you play any other wind-speaking instruments?
The harmonica.

What about the brass? That stuff is kind of high dollar to get your hands on, right?
Yeah, I have a bamboo saxophone at home that's much cheaper but it sounds very similar.

What about 20 years from now, do you see yourself in the woodwind section of an orchestra?
Sure, why not. Anything is possible. I'd say 20 years from now I see myself maybe sitting in a circle in a San Pedro cactus ceremony jammin' out, going deep.

You and Reyes bring a nice balance to this Creature thing. How do you feel about some of theses graphics? Is there some that turn you off, like maybe Russell's banshee lady?
Which one is that?

The one with the Rosary coming out of its vagina.
That one's not my favorite. But I would still ride it, though 'cause Chris Russell rules. At the end of the day I look at it as amazing artwork. Someone once told me, "You don't really fit the Creature vibe," and I was, like, "You're not really seeing it then," because the way I see it, we're all our own Creatures. We're all a different type of Creature. There's no fitting in on Creature.

The tail block on that fixed tranny to bank descent is pretty fucking scary to me. That's as scary as any Creature graphic.
I ain't gonna lie. It's not 100-percent peace for me every single day. There's some days the rage comes out. It's all about how you handle the rage that elevates you. ♠

WHAT VIDEO?

"STAY AWAY FROM MAGIC MUSHROOMS. YOU DON'T WANT YOUR DATE'S FACE TO MELT OFF"

CHRIS RUSSELL'S

GUIDE TO SHITTY DATING

What are three things *not* to ingest before going on a date?
No garlic or onions, no copious amounts of sharp cheddar and no habaneros. That can ruin foreplay mode. Also stay away from magic mushrooms. You don't want your date's face to melt off.

What are three things *to* ingest while on a date?
Sensual meats. Preferably a 42-ounce Tomahawk steak—something to share. A chicken Caesar if you wanna keep it light for performance and secure the second date. If she's paying, maybe the lobster or exotic shellfish. Barramundi?

Three things to ingest after a date?
Definitely a few cocktails, that's a given. Follow it up with a 24 pack. Maybe now would be the time to introduce those mushrooms. Take her to a nice cliff and eat some mushies and soak in the view, see where the evening takes you.

Where would you not bring a date?
A nightclub. Never bring a date to one. The music sucks and there's a high chance you're going to spend some major dollars. And you'll have dudes swooping in on your chick. You also don't want to take a chick somewhere too nice. At least on a first date. That sets the tone off wrong like you are trying too hard or you're rich. Set the bar the bar low and then go high. Also, never bring a date to a Chinese buffet. You can't trust it. You're risking a simultaneous blowout. Not so erotic.

Three reasons to date a lady that skates?
You know she's tough and can take a slam. It's just kind of hot. They probably got good taste in music too.

Three reasons you wouldn't date a chick that skates?
She'll probably drink all your beer and you'll end up fighting over it. The potential of having your back-up deck taxed. And she might end up wearing my favorite Bathory shirt. Don't get me wrong, that's hot but I wouldn't be going through her shit. Distance is needed in a skate relationship.

Three ways to break up without getting stabbed?
Tell her you're moving somewhere abroad.

Then she see's you the next day at the skatepark and—stabbed.
Tell her you're focusing on your chosen profession or career. Tell her there's somebody else, maybe? Invoke the threesome? That's a good one. Even if it don't work in the way you intended it's a win/win. ♠

HAMMEKE

Set the bar low, blast **frontside airs** high… and straight legged

RHINO

Russell with a backyard **fakie comply**. Sensual meats only

DARREN NAVARRETTE

CRYPTIC EMOTIONS

BROOK

Do you consider yourself a hoarder?
No. A hoarder keeps things longer than is needed.

Emotionally, what was the hardest thing to throw out while cleaning your pad?
Everything is emotional to me, so I let all my emotions go to find new emotions.

What's the stupidest thing you kept after the cleaning?
I kept nothing of stupidity, in my opinion.

What's the proper way to dispose of a dream catcher?
Let the wind take it to its dreams and desires.

Do you know the proper way to dispose of the flag?
Set it and let the wind catch it.

Name the three inverts you can't do at the moment?
At the moment always changes moment to moment. Ask me again *in* the moment.

Name your three-favorite current inverters.
Grosso.

When does a handplant become an invert?
Maybe when you look down at your arm? I'm not sure. I'm still working on them myself.

Have you ever discarded a board because the sticker job didn't feel right?
Yes.

WHAT VIDEO?

Do you own any camouflage cargo pants? If so, why?
Yes, a pair of JNCOs. Only because everyone else got rid of theirs even though they carried us through Y2K.

Do you consider yourself a poet?
No, I am a thinker.

When was the last time you read a book?
I look at books all the time and read a few things when I look at them.

Who currently has the most photos skating without a shirt, you or Russell?
Reese Simpson.

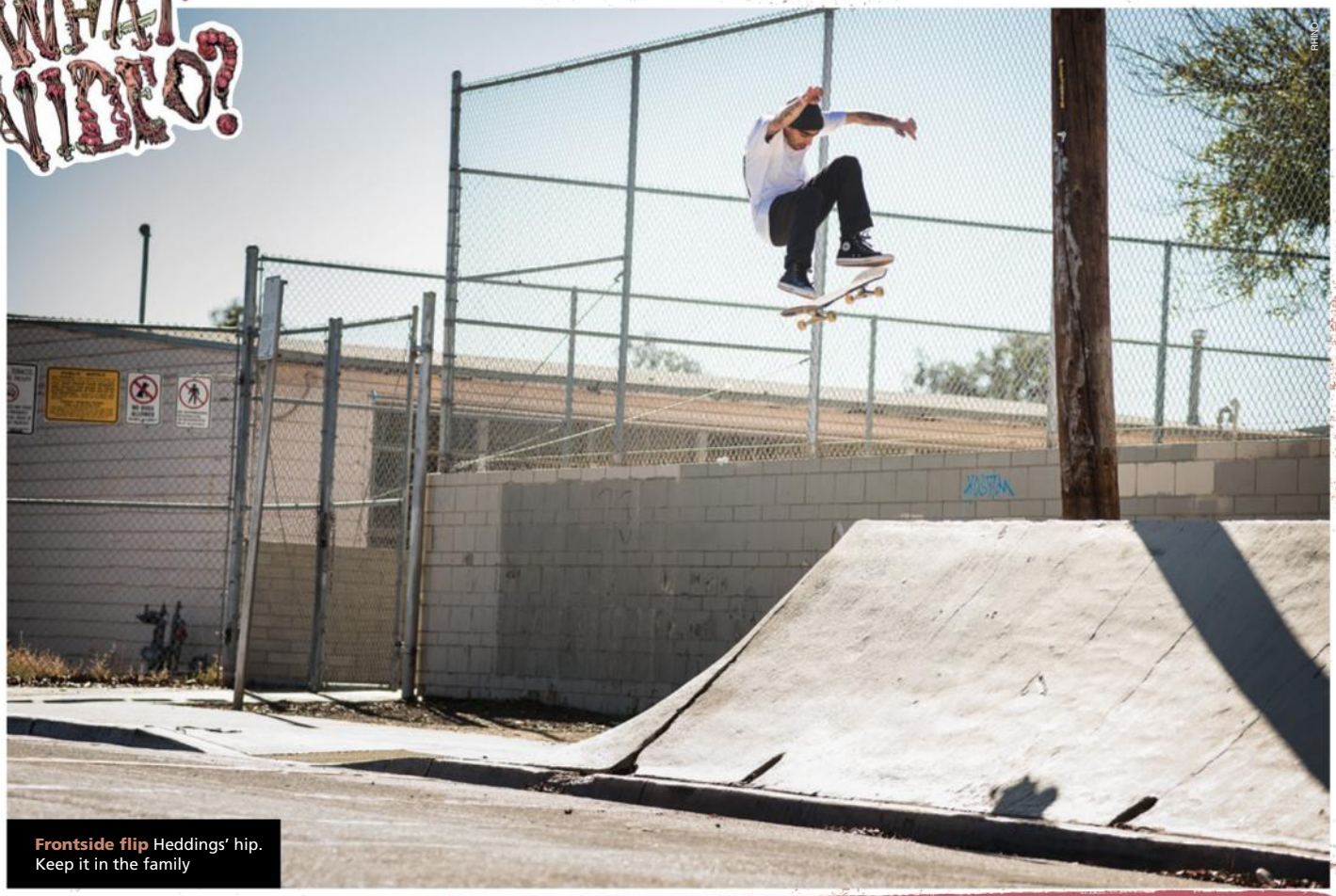
Who's harder to deal with during a blackout, you, me or Partanen?
It's a blackout. I can't see anyone anyhow so I'll deal with myself around you guys.

You're in a sauna naked on acid. Who on the team would make you the most uncomfortable to sit next to.
Everyone but myself. ♠

"SET IT AND LET THE WIND CATCH IT"

RHINO

Andrecht defiance in turbulent times



RHINO

Frontside flip Heddings' hip. Keep it in the family

MILTON MARTINEZ

WEED AND MONEY

RHINO

You ever make a weed pipe out of tinfoil?
No, I don't think so.

Do you own a glass bong?
No, what is that?

You know, like Cheech & Chong.
No, I don't.

What about blunts?
Not really.

You roll cigarettes?
I roll spliffs. That's the only thing I smoke.

Give me your top-three favorite fast food spots in The States.
In-N-Out, Thin Crust pizza from Dominoes and El Torazo Taqueria here in Long Beach. I like to make my own food when I can. It's cheaper and better.

How do you like Long Beach?
It's pretty nice. I don't have a car at the moment, so that's hard, you know, being a skater. Dave Hoang, my filmer buddy, lives upstairs so we chill. That's pretty nice.

You ever skate with Ron Chatman in Long Beach?
I don't think so.

You will soon. How long have you lived there?
Eleven or 12 months.

Is it hard for you to get a driver's license here?
No. I already have a license from Argentina, so I can go to the DMV and get one with my passport. It's pretty easy, I think.

What did you do for work back in Argentina?

MERCADO

Kinker nosegrind back home

"I ROLL SPLIFFS. THAT'S THE ONLY THING I SMOKE"

I've been making money from skating since I was 16. That's pretty much how I've always made my money.

So you made cash at contests and shit?
I was doing contests in Europe, then getting sponsored by Red Bull.

But Creature gives you a cut right?
Yeah, just started getting money from Creature this year.

Damn right. You earned every cent.
Yeah, I'm stoked.

How did your dad put you to work as a kid?
Well, my dad has a skate shop. My whole family is involved in skateboarding. My Mom owns a skate shop too.

Did you work at the skate shops at all?
Nah, not really. I told you, like, I've been really lucky. My mom and dad made whatever they could to help me to travel. I was 16 when I started to get paid from Red Bull, so I never really had to work at the shop. I was happy to travel and skate.

You're a natural born killer. Always in the field or "trenches" as Truman would say.
Yeah, for sure. Skateboarding is what I've been trying to do forever.

Shit, you're working right now. This is just the tip of the iceberg for you. You're a lifer. Creature has plenty of work for you to do. Yeah, you got hurt going to war, man, but you're back at it. We seen you in Tampa ripping! How was that?
That was pretty fun, actually. I've been going to Tampa since I was 16-17 years old. It was my birthday, too, so it was fuckin' rad.

Did you go to Al's birthday party last week?
No. He had a birthday party?

Yeah.
No, he didn't invite me.

Oh that's fucked up. Must have been just rock stars and DJs.
Yeah, must have been a VIP party then.

Yes. Very Important Partanen! When was the last time you drove past Sunset Car Wash?
I went back with my brother. I was still on crutches. Fuck. It's still there.

Fuck it. You're past the mend. You think you'll try it again?
Yeah, when I have 100-percent confidence. I know I can try it, for sure. I'm down to just keep skating. Don't think about it, just go there and fuckin' do it.

I've seen you conquer many gnarly situations and there will be gnarlier too. I think you know that. That's just your level of skateboarding. Much respect, man. Glad you're out there killing it again.
I'm stoked to have a little part in the video, just to be in the video. And stoked to go to the Premiere in San Diego and Santa Cruz. I'm stoked to be part of Creature. Everything: the crew, the video—it's sick! ♠

Minimal flair, maximum elbow grease on this DIY **front blunt**

"NAH, NEVER HAD A SILK SHIRT"

BURNETT

BROOK

AL PARTANEN

ON POWER-SHIRTING AND FLAIR

What are your top-three power shirts at the moment?
Sturgis '98, 2Pac *All Eyez on Me* and my OG Bad Brains shirt I traded off a bum.

You straight traded a bum for a shirt off the streets?
Yeah. He said he road the rails in the shirt. Shit, pissed and came on that shirt. It was gnarly.

How soiled was it on a scale of one to ten?
It was a ten-plus. I washed it 18 times before I wore it. It was a brought-back-from-the-dead power shirt.

What's the most you've spent on a power shirt or flair?
I'm not actually one to drop loot on a power shirt. They come to me when they're meant to be mine.

Top-three current flair pieces?
A lot of this stuff is also a necessity. Like a good hat.

No tied or dangling handkerchiefs?
I'm not on handkerchief levels. You could have other power trinkets like man charms and shit like that for special occasions.

Man charms?
Yeah, like an amulet or a flair piece of the necklace category. I don't do bolo ties or scarves. I don't necessarily do doo rags either but I borrowed yours.

Yeah you chimped mine when I was passed out. Very illegal. Do you still have the ripped King Diamond shirt you ran hard in the last video?
Yes. That's now in a flair time capsule. It could get broken out in another ten years.

So it's not permanently retired?
It's on hiatus.

Rate Chet's Childress's shark attack shirt on a flair scale of one to ten.
For Chet, that's a ten. A flair piece for the ages for that young man.

He ran that shirt into the ground. How do you know when the flair has gone too far?
Some people go too heavy, like the guy who gets sleeved up in one week.

There's no coming back from it?
They go all in and become total flairorists. It could hurt you.

Whats the most magical fabric for you in the power shirt game?
Just an OG cotton.

What, you never rocked a silk shirt?
Nah, never had a silk shirt.

Have you ever rocked a half shirt?
In the '80s as a youngin'. With some Jack Tripper shorts and some high socks going to baseball practice. Or maybe playing frisbee at Greenfield park.

Have you ever ran just one sleeve instead of cutting both off?
I've considered it.

What are three known Navarrette personal flair items?
Civil War jacket, Navajo blanket adornment and possibly a warrior's bone chestplate. He'll break that out after he's got a good buzz goin'.

Discuss three levels of Mark Hubbard flair.
Original levels from when I met him back in the day would be *Road Warrior* flair: possibly some leather pants or chaps. The Conch Cranium haircut, which made him look like he was 38 when he was 19. Then it evolved into the Unabomber phase.

Who would you consider the top flairsmen in skateboarding?
Ali Boulala, Greco, Choppy Omega, Hosoi, Muska. Who's the one old school flairsmen all zebra printed out?

That's Jeff Tatum. He looks like he was caught in a flair inferno and scorched from head to toe.
Yeah. He got Molotov cocktailed by a flairorist. ♠

WHAT VIDEO?

PETER RAFFIN

ON LOWBROW BEARDING

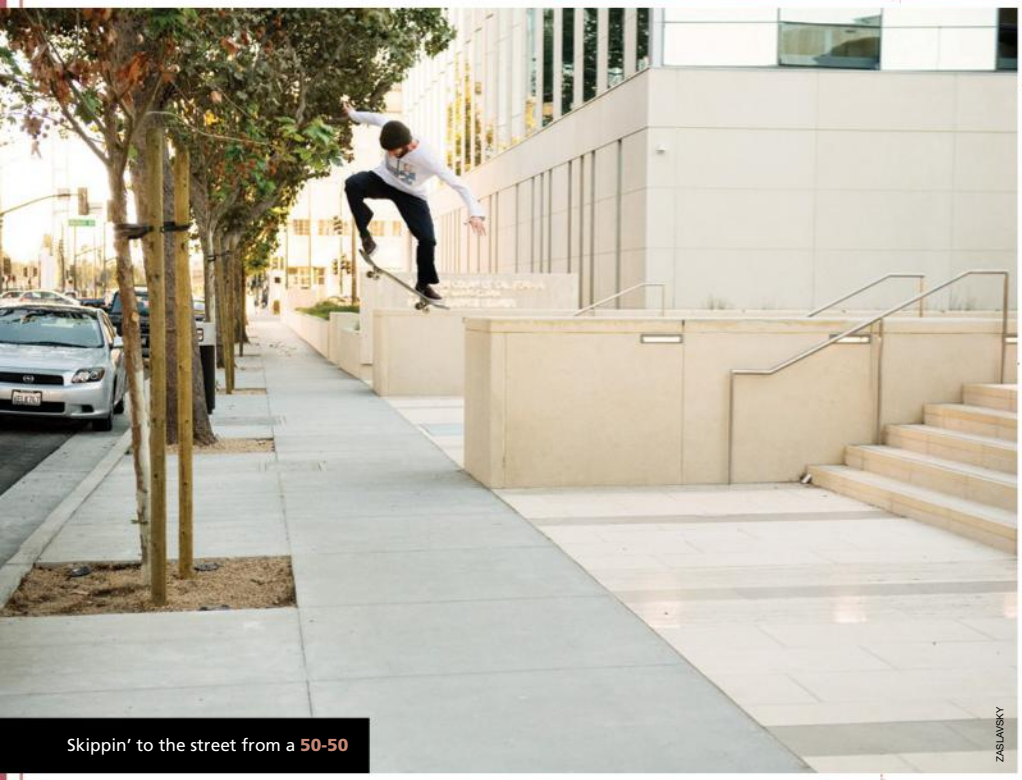
"CHICKS GENERALLY DON'T LIKE THE BRISTLE PAD"

What are three reasons for having a beard?
It just happens, really. I didn't ask for it. People avoid talking to you, though. They just think you're a bum.

Can a beard get you laid?
If it's trimmed at the right length it could get you laid. Too long and it will backfire. Chicks generally don't like the bristle pad. I never really got laid because of my beard, but it's a work in progress.

How do you know when it's time to cut it?
When food starts getting stuck in it. When you start chewing on your mustache while you're eating. When brushing your teeth becomes a nightmare.

BROOK



ZASLAVSKY

Skippin' to the street from a **50-50**

BROOK

Portland is a beardy kinda town. Top-bar **nosegrind** in the hirsute homeland

TONASCIA

Grind to grind, off the wall

It ain't Creature without a snake or two. **Slappy serpent grind**

TONASCIA

Would you enter a beard-grooming competition if Creature entered you?
Yeah, why not. I don't groom it, though. It's all natural.

How much to cut it off right now?
Anything! Five bucks and a brew, pretty much.

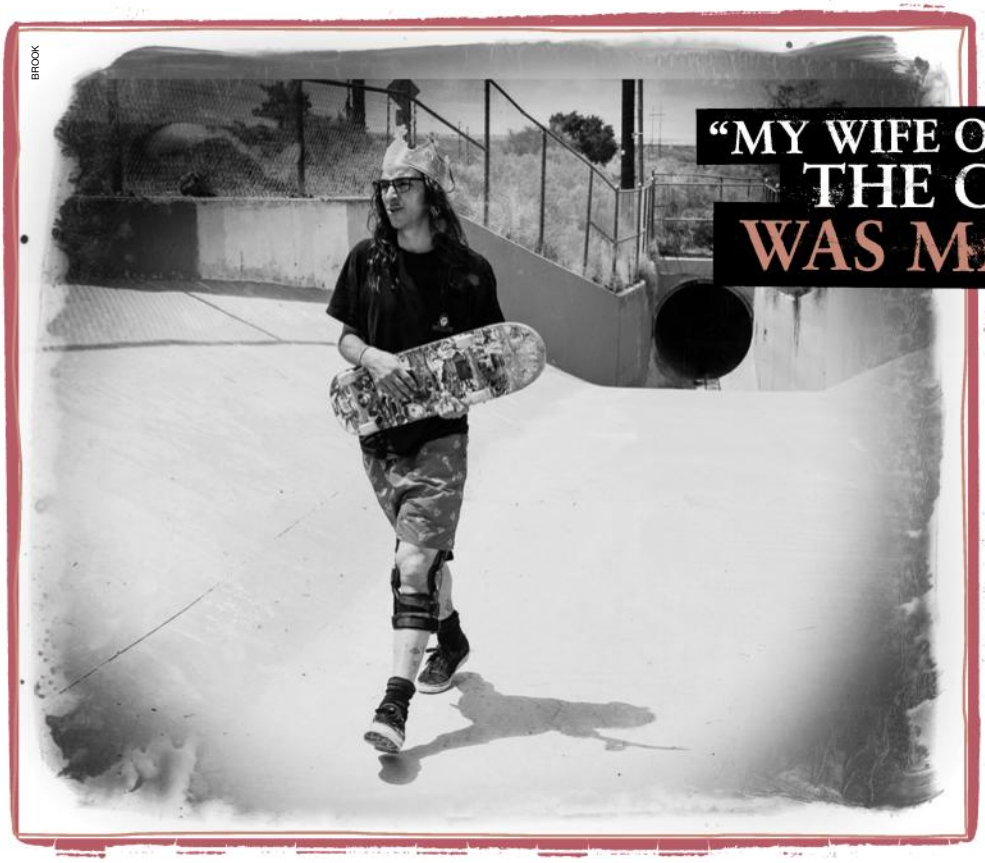
Who on the team would you like to see with a beard?
Gravette. He would look funny: disgusting and drooling.

Favorite bearded men in skateboarding today?
Stu's buddy Div Adams, Chris Haslam, Nick Boserio and Jesse Erickson.

Trench talk: what pairs better with a beard, the v-neck or camouflage?
Oh, camo for sure. V-neck and a beard and you're just confused at that point.

Would you date a bearded woman?
No. I couldn't make out with someone who had a face like mine. ♠

WHAT NIDIO?


BROOK

"MY WIFE ONCE THOUGHT THE CARPET WAS MAGGOTS"

RYAN REYES' GUIDE TO ACID

What are three things you like to do on acid?
I like to look at the sky, look at plants and wear costumes. Those are the main things I like to do. The things I don't like to do on acid are participate in group activities, talk about someone's problems and being in public at all is just terrible.

What are three reasons to continue doing acid?
I think it's a total emotional workout for my pineal gland, the front part of your brain. It gets stimulated from psychedelics. It makes it go crazy. The ancient Eygptians worshipped that part of the brain. I want to continue to get to know myself more and I think it's healthy to see the world from a different perspective every once and a while.

Would you recommend skating a contest on acid?
Maybe if you like attention. That sounds like my nightmare to me, though.

Would you recommend having sex on acid?
Yes, it's pretty cool. I highly recommend it. It's kind of weird.

Would you recommend watching *Ancient Aliens* on acid?
That would be a good time. That and *2001: A Space Odyssey*.

Have you ever had a meltdown?
No. I've tried to go out in public and retreated really quickly. That's the closest I've had to a meltdown. Once I was back in my zone I was all good. My wife once thought the carpet was maggots, though. She got a little loco.

What's your favorite kind of acid?
I don't know. I just let it come to me. But my preferred hallucinogen is mushrooms.

Have you ever tried Salvia?
I've never done it but I'm tempted. It's a really short trip so why not? Party on! We're gonna live forever.

Stick to acid. Final thoughts?
I would recommend trying hallucinogens after your brain is fully developed, somewhere in your mid-20s. ♠

Drop a **270 nosepick** and then head into the light. Avoid crowds

After head-to-toe psoriasis, how painful could a **switch egg** at Burnside be?

RHINO

"I DID NUDE MODELING FOR A PAMPHLET ON PSORIASIS"

WHAT VIDEO?

WILLIS KIMBEL

ON PSORIASIS & SCALLOPS

BROOK

What are three ways to beat psoriasis?
One: completely deny that comfort exists. Two: tie an oatmeal-and-beeswax-filled sock to the bathtub spigot and fill up the tub. That can make the feeling of bugs crawling on you stop. Three: knowing you can't ever really win.

It's always there with you?
Not always. It's come twice heavily in the last ten years.

Did you try black magic?
Yes. I tried everything. It was so bad I did nude modeling for a pamphlet on psoriasis because the doctors were blown away at the sight of it.

So you traded them nude portraits of your condition in the name of science to help you with medicine?
Yeah, and the medicine made me sick!

Three ways you used your condition to your benefit?
Using the rage and discomfort as an energy source. Scabs do not matter anymore because your skin already feels like shit. Mosquito bites? Can't even feel 'em. People wanna keep a two-meter distance from you.

Are you sure you aren't just allergic to shellfish?
I am not sure.

Top-three shellfish to eat?
Right now in order it goes: scallops, lobster, scallops.

Have you ever harvested your own scallops?
I never have.

Where is the prime zone for scallop harvesting?
I don't know, the coast somewhere?

You should know with the amount of scallops you consume. Have you ever been approached by a scallop producer with a sponsorship deal?
No I haven't.

Give me three breeds of known scallops?
Well, there's really only one kind of scallop you want. It's dry scallops, which doesn't mean it's not moist, it just means it hasn't been tampered with or injected with preservatives but actually frozen from the boat, thawed once and then you bought it.

Have you had scallops in Japan?
Probably. I ate everything put in front of me. I'm sure there was a scallop in there somewhere. I really only like scallops when they're seared, though.

Have you ever had smoked scallop?
Yes, in Copenhagen. Al rolls up on a bike with cornrows, pulls out a scallop and puts it in front of my eyes and it was smoked. I don't know how long it had been in his pocket but it was good.

ARTO

What wine would you pair a good scallop with?
I normally don't drink wine with 'em. But I make my sauce with a white wine: Pinot Grigio and a little garlic and whisk it.

If you had to pair a scallop with a game meat?
Antelope. One that ate a lot of alfalfa growing up.

What weed would you pair a scallop with?
White Knuckle Uncle Bubbly.

Would you consider your love for scallops a fetish?
I would consider it an obsession or a hobby phase to conquer.

Who on the team loves seafood more than you?
Probably DAF Noah because he's a pescetarian.

Have you known Noah to ever lose his mind?
You got to already be out of you mind to want to drive 17 hours straight.

Wait, were you on *KOTR* last year?
I'm pretty sure I was. I tried to delete most of it because of post-traumatic stress. ♠

Willis Kimbel loves scallops. Handrails, he just likes

WHAT VIDEO?

DAVID GRAVETTE

PISSED OFF & PISSED ON

So, David, got any regrets?
I have a few in mind but I don't think I can talk about them. But what's life without regrets?

What about the best decisions you've made?
Getting *Thrasher* tattooed on my eyebrows is the best decision I made in my entire life.

How long have you been pro? Is it everything you thought it would be?
I've been a pro for ten years now; I turned pro at 19. It was awesome in the beginning, which was about the first five years—doing lots of traveling with Devin, Silent Mike, Bingaman and our filmer Garrett Hunt. We were a real solid gang. Being pro is still great, but the dynamic of being a pro has really changed. I never thought my abilities with a computer would come into play in skateboarding. I'm sure you've all heard it before, but the internet really fucked up our little community. All in all, though, being a pro is pretty bomb.

BROOK

Do you feel being a pro for Creature now is an accomplishment?
Being pro for anything is an accomplishment, but there's no better company for me than Creature. I'm glad I got on Creature when I did. I know so many skaters that are so goddamned amazing out there and they're not even hooked up. It's tough as fuck out there these days.

What do your parents think of your pro career?
I think my mom is pretty over it now. It's really taking a toll on her. When I hurt my left shoulder it was the day after her birthday and I really didn't want to make that call. But they are also glad I'm doing what I want to do with my life.

Since riding for Creature, how many surgeries have you had?
Unfortunately, I was getting surgeries long before I got on Creature. I've been put under for medical procedures ten times in my life so far. I've never really been hurt trying anything substantial. It's always been messing around. I've accepted the fact that I'm accident prone. I get hurt doing everything, even when I'm not skating.

What has been your most painful injury?
For some reason it is really, really fucked when my shoulders pop out. And waiting in the ER to get them popped back in is the worst pain I have ever been in! Usually when you break something you can find a position where it's tolerable as long as you stay still. I couldn't find that with either of my shoulders. I've had one of my testicles hanging out of my sack before and I was way calmer in the ER. The first time with my shoulder I waited for 45 minutes before I went up to the counter and told the lady, "I am in so much fucking pain, I am gonna break each of my fingers in front of your face unless you get me a doctor!" Three minutes later my shoulder was back in. The second time I was hoping I'd get it popped back in right away but it was way worse! They had me sitting for two-and-a half hours waiting for a doctor. I was running around grabbing EMTs and sneaking them around corners asking, "Hey, do you know how to get a shoulder back in?" but no one would help. I tried getting it in myself but I kept making it worse and they kept telling me to stop cussing and I'm, like, "Fuck, that's all I've fuckin' got!" I finally saw the doctor and he couldn't get it back in so they had to knock me out.

I heard you have a collection of things doctors have taken out of your body during surgeries.
Ha! I don't have that much. When I was about 14 I developed these tumor-like things in my hip and I could push them all over. When I slammed on them it felt like I had golf balls in my pockets. I finally got the surgery to remove them when I was about 17 and I really wanted to see what the fuck they looked like! The doctor told me he couldn't legally give them to me but he would bring them in to show me and if they happened to disappear he wouldn't tell anyone. Good guy. They turned out to be scar-tissue bursa sacks and I had five of these grape-sized things removed. I also have my wisdom teeth.

RHINO

"I'VE HAD ONE OF MY TESTICLES HANGING OUT OF MY SACK BEFORE AND I WAS WAY CALMER"

He made his name on the rails, but **Gravette** is a park shark at heart. Frigid **footplant** off the fence in tropical-ass Hawaii

In BMX terms this **kickflip** footplant is known as a "Superman seat grab"

BROOK

"I WATCH BMX VIDEOS TO GET ME FIRED UP TO SKATE"

Is the party lifestyle dying in skateboarding?
There's a lot of partying going on in skateboarding, especially if you're young. I think the partying has definitely died down for me. I get those old-man hangovers now and if I'm going to try anything substantial I try to make sure I haven't had any alcohol in the past week. That means a lot of staying back at the hotel while the other guys are going to hit the watering hole. The level in skateboarding has really risen and skateboarding has real athletes now. Sometimes I want to yell at people who have never had to go through a serious injury. I don't wish harm on anyone, but sometimes it just makes me wonder what I'm doing wrong. I always have a lot of respect for other skaters I see who have less of an athletic build like me and tend to break when they have a bad slam.

Have you changed your lifestyle so you can skate longer?
From 19 to around 25 I partied almost every day. I would get drunk and skate all day with my friends and had the most amazing times. Around 25, my body started breaking from doing nothing at all. When I'm home now I go to the gym every other day. I drink smoothies. I'll still drink my ass off on the right occasion, but I'll go weeks without drinking. On trips now I rarely party. I stay at the hotel and call my girlfriend or I'll take a bath and watch some RedTube.

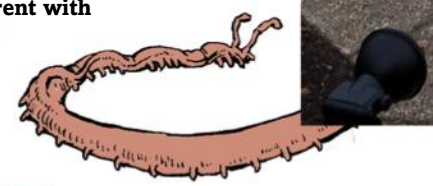
Do the Creature fiends out there hold you to a high regard in terms of partying?
Creature fans love the green, you know what I mean. It really helps when you're on trips and you don't know where to find your meds. I'm really lucky that my fans seem to like to give me weed. But at bars, the fiends want to drink shots with you. The shots can take their toll on you real quick. I've gotten kicked out of a lot of bars when I'm fairly sober because I threw up after a shot. Sometimes I ask if I can just have a cocktail instead. Is that lame? I thought I would get better at taking shots as I got older, but somehow I've have gotten worse at it.

Who's getting rad on their board these days?
Kevin Bækkel. He's so hot right now.

What's your deal with BMX?
I like it! When I was a kid, they didn't really have proper small BMX bikes, so I was always riding full-size bikes. It was really hard to move the big bikes around, so skateboarding was always way more fun. I would always watch BMX at the X Games when I was skating in those contests. I guess my fascination with BMX has been growing again over the past few years. I just love the flow and danger aspect. I watch BMX videos to get me fired up to skate. People are going love that!

Do you follow more skateboarders or BMXers on Instagram?
I can't believe I've gone from answering questions in previous interviews about why I would never get an Instagram account to answering questions about my Instagram feed. I feel pretty hypocritical. Sorry, guys—but this is the world we're in, apparently, so I had to fall on my pride to keep my job. And yes, my feed is all BMX.

Do you stay current with skate videos?
I don't really watch skate videos anymore.



BROOK

Boardslide around and down a 90-degree corner in 30-degree weather

"THAT SEALED MY FATE AS BEING GUILTY OF ALL POOP MATTERS"

Afternoon **nosepicks** are almost always better than blackout shits. Ask Drehobl

I'm too immersed in skateboarding. I need to disconnect at some point. There are so many skate videos coming out, it's overwhelming to me. I watch my friends' parts in videos, but I don't go seeking out the newest videos. Part of my healing process is not watching skateboarding. When I do watch videos, I like to watch videos from the early 2000s. Every age group's got a different golden era of skateboarding and that's mine.

Some people say you complain a lot on trips?
I wear my heart on my sleeve and I let stuff loose. I try not to as much as possible, but I guess that's just how I'm made. I think one of my biggest downfalls is I'm too honest. If I'm feeling a certain way, I'm really bad at hiding it or keeping it in. I've been that way since I was little. It also doesn't help that I tend to get hurt on the first day of almost every trip. I think maybe if I'd flown home from some of those trips I wouldn't be answering this question. I like to think I bring other good vibes to the trip, though. Who else is gonna sing country for the crew?

Blackout shits: let's talk about this.
Oh, man, we're going there? Well, I'll do my best. We will never get to know the real story. There wasn't a forensics team on hand, but it started with a Vox meetup in San Diego about eight years ago. We were drinking a bunch of tequila and the bar we were at had a candy-eating contest, which was real gnarly. E-man crushed the contest, so that made him a suspect in my eyes. We went back to Rhino's, I went to bed and woke up to Drehobl telling this crazy story of getting pooped on and I'm, like, "what?!" And he's, like, "Yeah, it was you." So I guess Dan woke up and thought he had pissed himself but then discovered there was shit on top of his sleeping bag! The message he left on Ed Dominick's phone was so fucking funny! "Ed! I need a ticket home. Gravette shit on me!" The only evidence that pointed to me was when the shit was discovered I was sitting in a chair in the kitchen in my boxers, passed out. I had sleptwalked there from bed. I was so bummed. Drehobl has always been one of my favorites and I hadn't spent much time with him and really wanted to be on his good side, but I'm pretty sure that wasn't the way to do it. Anyways, a year or so later I sleptwalked and pooped on a stool in a hotel, so that sealed my fate as being guilty of all poop matters. I am really, really sorry, Dan, and I hope you're okay with this being in here. And huge sorry to Rhino and Debbie whose house it was.

What are your goals in skateboarding?
Just to have fun and enjoy it. Even though you're out filming, it can be stressful. Trying a trick for four hours straight sucks. I have meltdowns and say I hate skateboarding but I do love skateboarding, even though it feels like a job sometimes. There is a work aspect of it now as I get older. I have to look for more original stuff to do or skate. I like skating big stuff still, but it has to have something unique about it. I just want to push myself as much as I can in the next few years and make the most out of my time that I can still skate. And hopefully continue to get coverage in this powerhouse of a magazine!

What's up with your night terrors?
I'm so over it. A lot of people will tell you they have night terrors just 'cause they have bad dreams, but anyone who really has them knows what I'm fuckin' talking about. In bad dreams you can't move well and everything is

RHINO

Haole gone wild!
Heavy **noseblunt slide**
in the Honolulu hills

BROOK

"I'M TRUE TO THE DOPE THAT I SMOKE, NO JOKE!"

kinda off. You almost know you're dreaming. But with night terrors you can run, fight, die and everything is super real! It blows me away my mind can even come up the horrible situations I encounter in my dreams. They seem to increase when I'm hurt. I've been having them for about five years, but at this point it's become a nightly routine for my girlfriend to wake me up 'cause I'm freaking out and the bed is soaked with sweat! And for bonus points, I've developed sleep paralysis over the last year so sometimes when it's really bad I am stuck in the nightmare and I can hear Liz telling me to wake up and feel her shaking me but I can't. It's a truly fucked situation. My mom thinks I might have developed some form of PTSD from all the years of scaring myself and getting hurt. I'm gonna go see someone for sure while my shoulder is healing. Some of the worst ones that won't leave my head are shit like being possessed and killing my dog and realizing what I have done, lots of trying to swim to something while knowing there is a shark coming to get me, Mexican standoffs where we kill each other and I really feel the impact and heat of the bullet and I'm lying there knowing I'm gonna die and just trying to die quicker 'cause of the pain. Getting stabbed is a bitch too.

Creature works with tons of amazing artists. Who is your favorite?
Creature really kills the art department but I gotta go with the fellow Washingtonian Chris "Fat Chris" Adams. He did my first graphic and knocked it out the park with the hippie skull and he's done five or six encores of that image. It's insane to have a graphic concept that has become somewhat, for lack of a better word, iconic.

Do you have a weed sponsor?
I'm kinda in between right now. The fuckin' government is always pitching curve balls. It's hard to get something solid set up. However, I am gonna continue to try and force myself upon Weedmaps. 'Sup guys? I'm true to the dope that I smoke, no joke!

Have you ever wanted to be a stuntman?
Already there, bud. ♠

Gravette's gonna shred 'til he's dead. **Gap to grind, transfer into the bank** and keep on going

WHAT VIDEO?

JIMMY WILKINS

BY JASON JESSEE

Okay, so just off the top, do you know who Llewelyn Moss is?
He's a character from *No Country for Old Men*.

Okay, but who is it in your life?
Oh, it's Josh Brolin.

That would be your uncle?
Yeah.

Would it be safe to say that you could call him Dad?
Dad? No.

So he is your uncle.
Yeah, he's the father of my cousins.

And do you know that Josh Brolin skateboarded?
There's a skater named Josh Brolin?

No, he knows how to skateboard.
Oh yeah. He skates, yeah.

That's the best thing ever. Okay, so your mom's mom married him—
My mom's sister.

Do you think that he's witnessed just one vert run that you've performed?
Yeah, I think so.

Okay, name some of the movies you've seen that Josh Brolin has been in. I know this isn't about him, it's about you, but we're boiling it down here.
Um, *Goonies*, there's *Thrashin'*, there's *American Graffiti*.

He was in *American Graffiti?*
Pretty sure he's, like, one of the gay cops or something.

And then what do you think his all-time greatest one is? Besides *Thrashin'*.
No Country for Old Men.

How's the video going?
Good.

How long have you been at it, filming it?
Like a year.

A year? It takes that long to do a part? I used to do this shit in like a month. Okay, so you've been at it for a year. Are you pretty stoked with where it's at?
Yeah.

Later, you're not gonna look back and be, like, "I kinda shouldn't have done that?"
Nah.

Okay, so you're in Encinitas it's a real big town for, like, snowboarders, hesh surfers. You know, like, PLG lives there, I think, and some other vert skateboarders. But it's a Mecca of just, like—it's like Orange County at the beach. Do you feel more comfortable in Encinitas or Carlsbad?
I don't know; it's kind of all the same.

It is all the same. It's corny.
Yeah, it's corny as fuck.

I'm glad you said that. That better stay in the interview. Hey, I grew up down there. I grew up in like—all down there so I've taken notes. So that was a good answer. Do you ever feel compelled to go on these Skate Rock trips or King of the Road things or a SOTY trip after whoever gets SOTY? Do you want to get on those ever? Have you thought about it?
Yeah, those would be fun. But fuck, I kind of only skate like vert so—

Don't narrow yourself down to that. Don't pigeonhole yourself into just that.
Yeah.

Look at Gravette. He's pretty incredible. He's like one of my favorite skateboarders. Okay, but you like to skate transition and vert?
I mean, I skate everything. It'd be fun to go on a trip like that but I don't know how much shit I'd get.

How do you feel when you hear people talk about skateboarding in the Olympics? What is your personal feeling on it?
I mean, I don't really like it but I don't know much about it. The Olympics seems kind of fucking weird.

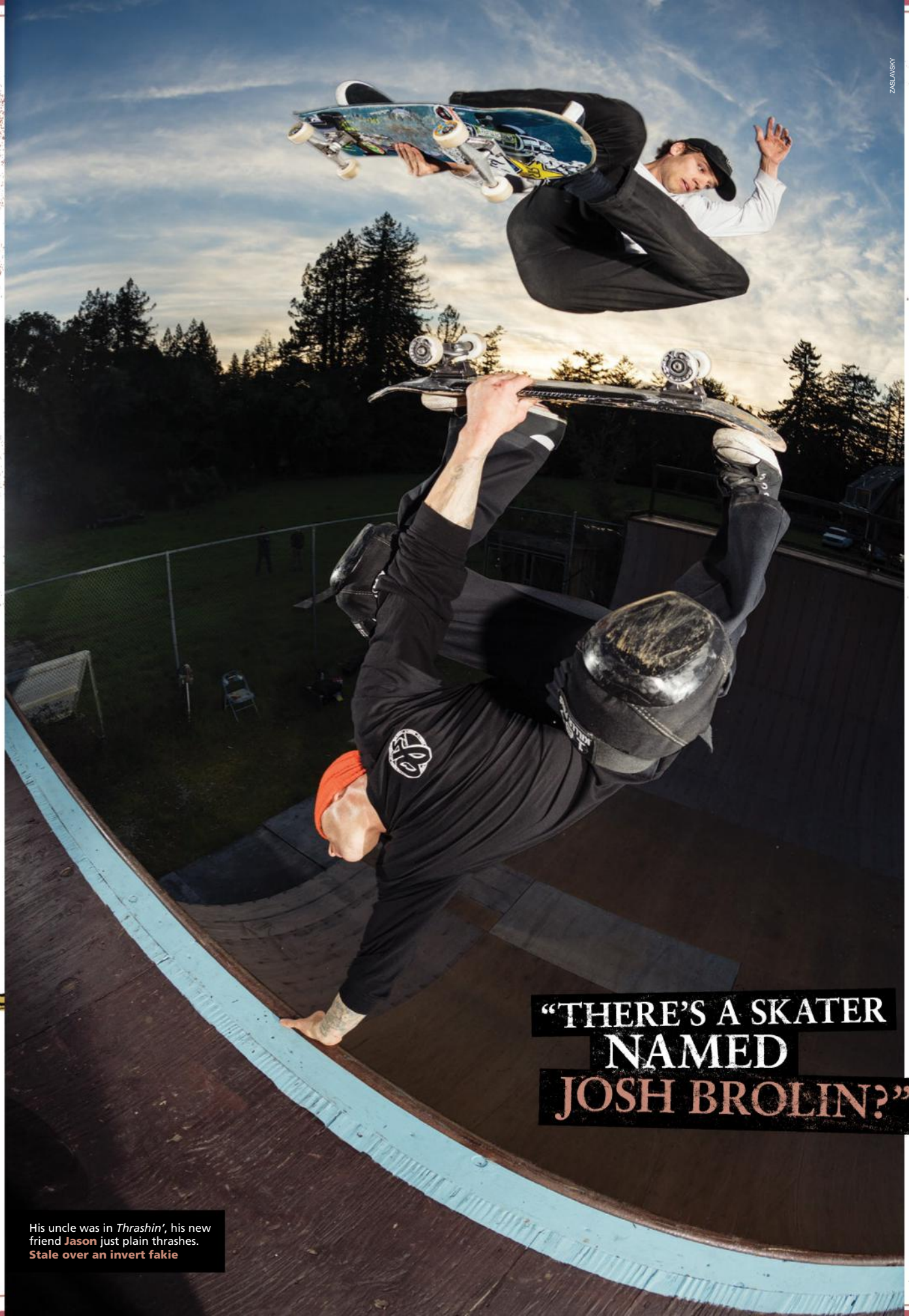
Okay, here's another question: if somebody, I don't know who it would be, but I guess somebody in the world that's involved with the Olympics, maybe they do know about skateboarding and maybe they don't, but if they approached you and said, "Do you want to be in the Olympics?" what would you do?
I mean, I don't think it's really for me.

Would you give it a shot or not?
I don't know. That's not like—

It's not something you live for?
No, I don't like that. I don't even really like doing the contests that I do but it's just a way to make money. But like what you said, it's just, like, skating was an alternative.

Is it personal to you, skateboarding?
Yeah, for sure.

Because, man, it's personal for me too. It's very personal. What's the best you've ever done in a contest?



ZASLAVSKY

"THERE'S A SKATER NAMED JOSH BROLIN?"

His uncle was in *Thrashin'*, his new friend **Jason** just plain thrashes. **Stale over an invert fakie**

I've won a couple of them.

What contests? Bondi?
No, not Bondi. I won the X Games and, like, a Dew Tour and some Maloof shit.

Fuck. That's pretty impressive. Did you win money?
Yeah.

So technically are you pro?
I do, like, pro contests.

And you win them?
Yeah.

That's amazing. So now we gotta pull off some publicity stunt where you, like, push dogs back into their own turds or just do something crazy so people are, like, "Oh shit, man, that guy is kinda crazy. And he wins contests and he's only 23." Next Level Jimmy where it actually turns into, like, you have your own little skatepark in the back of your house like Tony Hawk. that type of shit. Only because that's what you're passionate about, right?
Yeah.

Who was your favorite skateboarder growing up? Who did you look up to? We all have heroes.
I really liked Alex Perelson and I really liked Chris Miller.

Fuck yeah. Chris Miller—both of them are great, but Chris Miller, that's a great answer. Do you know one of his sons that rips too?
Yeah, I skate with Zach all the time but his son Lucas is sick too.

I heard Lucas is really good.

"TINDER KIND OF SUCKS"

Alley-oop tailgrab 540, then time to meet some sluts

Lucas is fucking gnarly. Super gnarly.

That is amazing. Have you met Chris Miller?
Yeah.

He's really nice.
Yeah, he's a sick dude.

Have you ever met Neil Blender?
Yeah. Or I've seen him around.

Okay, but you've seen him. Was there a time when you wanted to just learn handplants?
Yeah. Well, I don't know. I never really did them and then last year someone just got me to try them and it was the funnest shit ever.

So where do you go to meet sluts? Or girls. How do you approach that?
Just fuckin' through friends or just like—

That's always a good go-to. Do you have Tinder?
I was on Tinder for a minute. Tinder kind of sucks.

Yeah it's stupid. Here's my advice to you: hang out with your bros, choose which girls are hot that they go out with, then when they break up with them you swoop in and you fucking see how much your friend hated them. And then you're cool. I want you to try that if you can. Also, you're gonna get a lot of flak from your friends in the aftermath but you've got to kind of prepare them for that point, like, "You know when you guys break up I'm gonna fucking swoop in." Let them know ahead of time and then it's actually a buffer. And for the record,

"IT WOULD FOR SURE TRIP ME OUT"

The world's highest **backside disaster**

BURNETT

I've humped two of Andy Roy's ex-girls. I don't have AIDS, though. I got checked 14 years ago. Have you ever been to the doctor and got checked for anything?
Nah.

Do you live alone?
I've got roommates, just some other skate kids.

Do you talk to your parents often?
Yeah, I talk to my mom because she kind of lives close.

Oh, she lives in California? How did your dad die?
My dad's alive.

Good to know. Have you ever been to Josh Brolin's house in Paso Robles?
I don't think I've been to the Paso Robles house. I've been to his Venice house.

Does Navarrette, when he shows up at a session, is he in character? Like a 70's character. Or is he his normal self?
He's his normal self.

Alright, cool. Has he ever yelled at you?
No.

Okay, out of Al Partanen, Darren Navarette and Sam Hitz who would you want to be stranded on Highway 17 with for six hours when they close it? In a small car.
Oh my God. This is like a marry, fuck, kill question.

Okay marry, fuck, kill out of Sam Hitz, Partanen and Navarrette?
Kill myself.

He finally thought of suicide. Good answer. Out of the entire Creature team who is your favorite top ten? What is your ultimate trip with the Creature guys? Name top-five that you would go with, and it doesn't mean you like these dudes more than the other dudes but let's hear it.
Fuck. Well, Darren, Gardner, Conover, Bingaman, Willis, Rye Rey. I've never met Gravette.

You don't like Gravette?
I've never met him.

Really? Maybe don't ever meet him. I love Darren Gravette. Have you ever seen the sequence of Steve Claar in transworld from, like, 1990 or something doing a frontside ollie at Fallbrook across the whole ramp?
The one where he comes in all sideways and stuff?

Yeah.
Yeah, that's a sick photo.

So you're familiar with Steve Claar's frontside ollies?
Yeah, they're fucking great.

Okay, so your frontside ollies I have heard, and I've witnessed, but before I witnessed them I heard, "You gotta see this dude Jimmy do frontside ollies. They're better than anyone that's ever done a frontside ollie in the world." And I was, like, "No shit," and then I witnessed it and it was true. I was wondering, did that come naturally or did you study some shit? Like, did you look how people move their fucking front foots? Do you scrape your tail?
I just wanted to learn them straight up and down and that's kind of how I got better at them. I used to travel them and land primo and suck at them so once I learned them straight it was way easier.

How much do you weigh?
145 or something.

Stay at that weight your whole life. I'm not even joking around because once you go past that, when you go to board there's so much inertia, like, you will throw up. You will come un-assed is what they say. You will come un-assed. So keep it at 146-149. Don't ever go past that. Don't grow anymore and stay at 149. I'm not even joking. Like, monitor that for as long as you can because that frontside ollie feels good, right?
Yeah.

Okay, good. What if you looked back, you saw how me and Lee are sitting, then you went to grab your board out the back and you noticed we were holding hands? How would you feel about that? Listen, knowing Lee has children, I have a child, he's married, I have a couple sluts that are gonna get me in trouble soon. But how would you feel? Would you say something?
I'd probably keep it to myself.

Would it kind of trip you out?
Oh, it would for sure trip me out.

We're holding hands and one of them was showing perspiration. Can we end it there?♠

RHINO

WHAT VIDEO?

"EUROPE IN THE SUMMER IS THE BEST TIME EVER!"

Thirteen-stair **noseblunts**, much safer than snowboarding

KEVIN BÆKKEL

BEHOLD: THE HAMMER! BY DAF NOAH

What up, player? Where you at right now?
I'm in Oslo, Norway. Chillin' at my little brother's crib. Just got back from skating all day.

Clean. Let's start with some basics. How old are you and where are you from?
I'm 21 years old and I'm from Hamar, Norway.

Okay, so you're from Norway. What's up with Denmark and Cypress?
Well, my Dad is from Denmark and Mom is from Norway. They met in Cypress and that's where I spent the first four years of my life.

And then you moved to Norway?
Yeah, lived there 'til I was 16 and then started traveling. I haven't really been home since.

What was it like growing up there?
I have no complaints at all. It was perfect, a beautiful place to grow up. In my city, we didn't have an indoor skatepark and that was really the only issue until we got one a few years later.

So did you go snowboarding since it's cold and snowing half the year?
Yeah, I used to snowboard a lot when I was a kid but I stopped doing it 'cause I'd always get hurt. Just getting too pumped and eating shit.

What other skaters have come out of Norway?
Christian Brox. He's a legend. Karsten Kleppan, Magnus Bordewick, Hermann Stene. There's a lot of good skaters out in Norway. All my friends. The legend is Christian Brox, though.

Who were some of the ones there that you looked up to as a kid?
Christian Brox was my biggest influence, just 'cause he would skate fast, go all in, be gnarly, so I looked up to him a lot. My friend Erik Jøhnsten from Hamar as well. He was just skating big stairs and big rails. No one else was skating like him back then.

Was Christian a tranny or skater or all terrain?
Mainly transitions. He was one the first pool skaters from Norway, I guess.

What's the biggest differences you notice between Norway and the US?
Everything looks different. In The States there's so much concrete everywhere, the amount of people, needing a car to get everywhere. In Norway you never really need a car. You just skate or take trams and trains. The food—just everything is so different.

BROOK

Would you rather live in the US or Europe?
I would love to be in The States during the winter time and Europe in the summers. Europe in the summer is the best time ever! You can go to Copenhagen, Finland, Norway, Spain. It only gets dark for, like, two hours a day. Light all the time. Good times!

Being Norwegian, do you frequent Black Metal shows when you're in Norway. What's up with 'em?
Yeah, I've been to a few. I was actually at one recently. They happen all the time, though. I've been to some gnarly one's, for sure!

Like dudes fighting, fucking each other up?!
Yeah, like the pits and dudes get fired up and are all fighting each other. It gets a little too gnarly sometimes. But it's fun; I like it.

I know talent runs in your family. Can you tell me a little about what your other family members do?
My little brother is a DJ, like, a party DJ. He plays huge raves and he makes songs. My little sister is a really good dancer and singer. She has two CDs out right now. My mom is a skydiver. My dad is a SCUBA Diver. He was in the United Nations Military for a while.

So how'd you get into skating out in Norway?
They built a concrete park in my town when I was nine. I starting going there every day and the older guys just kinda took me under their wing and I became friends with them and I loved it ever since.

Fuck yeah. So how did you first get hooked up with Creature?
I think I was about 13 when Gravette came to Norway with the Vox team and then came to do a demo in my hometown and he was the first pro skater I ever saw. When they went to Oslo to do the next I demo I went there with my older homies. He remembered seeing me at the demo before and started talking and I guess he was stoked on me and gave me a board and talked to the Creature guys in Norway got me hooked up from there.

Damn, that's sick. Okay, so let's fast forward to CPH 2015. That's when we met. How'd you get on our month-long Euro tour and what'd you think about it?
My good friend Rune Wonder told me that you guys were coming out there and he kept saying, "You're going on that trip. I'm making it happen." I didn't know what to think, but was, like, whatever but every day he kept telling me and talking to you guys. Finally I started talking to you and Gravette. Then the last day of CPH Pro you told me to get a ticket to Berlin and to meet you at the airport there. I bought my ticket right there on my

phone. I thought I was just going to go on the trip for a couple days, but then was on it for a month. It was fucking crazy!

So you were tripping when we took you to Warsaw and Budapest after that?
Yeah! I was loving it the first day. It was the sickest shit ever. Such a good crew and good times!

On that trip you found out we were filming for a video. Did you have any expectations then?
Not really. I was just skating. Maybe hoped to get a couple tricks for the video but definitely never thought about having a part or anything like that.

So at the end of that trip, I invited you to come stay with me in The States some time. You hit me up only a couple weeks later and came right out to the US. You've been out quite a bit since to film for the vid. How has that whole experience been?
Dude, fucking so sick! I'd been to The States a bunch before but mainly LA. Coming out to Santa Cruz and traveling around the whole US with the crew has been the best time of my life! Couldn't be better.

Fo sho'! So you travelled with us a lot and on your own while filming. What's been your favorite place?
That's a hard one. I think it's gotta be Hawaii. I've never been to a place like that before. It's amazing. Such a beautiful place and crazy spots, I've never seen such things. Just the whole experience there. Cruising around feeling like you're on vacation and just skating all day. Basically a vacation but just getting clips, hanging out with the crew.

Skatecation, player!
Ha! Yep, Skatecation!

We did *King of the Road* while filming for this video. How'd you feel about doing tricks for *KOTR* while wanting certain things for your part? Did it hold you back at all?
Nah, not at all. I wish I could of gotten some of those *KOTR* tricks for my part, but definitely not holding back. I wanted to do my best for both things, you know? Just wanted to have fun and skate.

Yup. Okay, so how'd you get the nickname The Norwegian Hammer?
Ha! I don't even know. I think it was Al or you that just said it. I have no idea.

RHINO

"I THOUGHT I WAS JUST GOING TO GO ON THE TRIP FOR A COUPLE DAYS, BUT THEN WAS ON IT FOR A MONTH"

Hammering out a cranked-over **nosegrind** in California

Plummeting like a ham-stuffed suitcase, **Bækkel** takes the **drop**

"I PUT ALL MY CLOTHES IN A BACKPACK AND CARRIED MY BOARD AND CHECKED MY BAG FULL OF HAM"

Spinning **360** over the gap in God's land of hot ditches

It just happened, huh? Just like all the nicknames the crew gets on trips. They just appear on their own.
Yeah, it just happens. That's the best way to get it. Naturally.

Who are your biggest influences in skateboarding?
David Gravette is on the top of the list. He's been my favorite skater forever. Fuckin' Figgy! Always loved that dudes shit. My good friend Louie, always killin' it. Basically all my friends, they always get me so hyped! Just skating with the homies, for sure. It's just crazy becoming friends with all these really good skaters in The States and going skating with them is so gnarly, it just puts you in a whole other place.

You've won the Death Race at CPH Open the last two years. Do you train for that?
Ha! I don't train for that shit. I can't skate that skatepark before the contest. It just happens. It's pretty funny.

Are you ready to defend your title this year?
Oh yeah! That'd be fucking sick. Ha!

So now that you're done filming for our video, what's next for you?
Right now I'm filming a part with my homie from Oslo for his VX video and then hopefully film another part with you, Noah. That'd be amazing.

I'm down, player!
Oh fuck yeah, we're doing it!

Are you doing anything special to prepare for our upcoming seven-week US demo tour?
Not really. It's gonna be sick. I've never done anything like that. I'm fired up. It's gonna be such a sick experience to hit the road with all the homies, skating, having fun. It's gonna be tight.

I know you skate a lot of contests in Europe. What's the craziest prize you've ever won?
Barcelona. It was a fucking six kilo. piece of Spanish ham! I took everything out of my duffel bag to bring it home. I don't know if you can even bring that much meat, so I put all my clothes in a backpack and carried my board and checked my bag full of ham. It fucking went through and I brought it home. My Grandma hung it up in the kitchen and just starting cutting away at it! It was insane!

If you were stranded on a desert island and can only have one person, one food type and one possession, what would they be?
I would bring Willis, I'd run fish and I'd bring a knife.

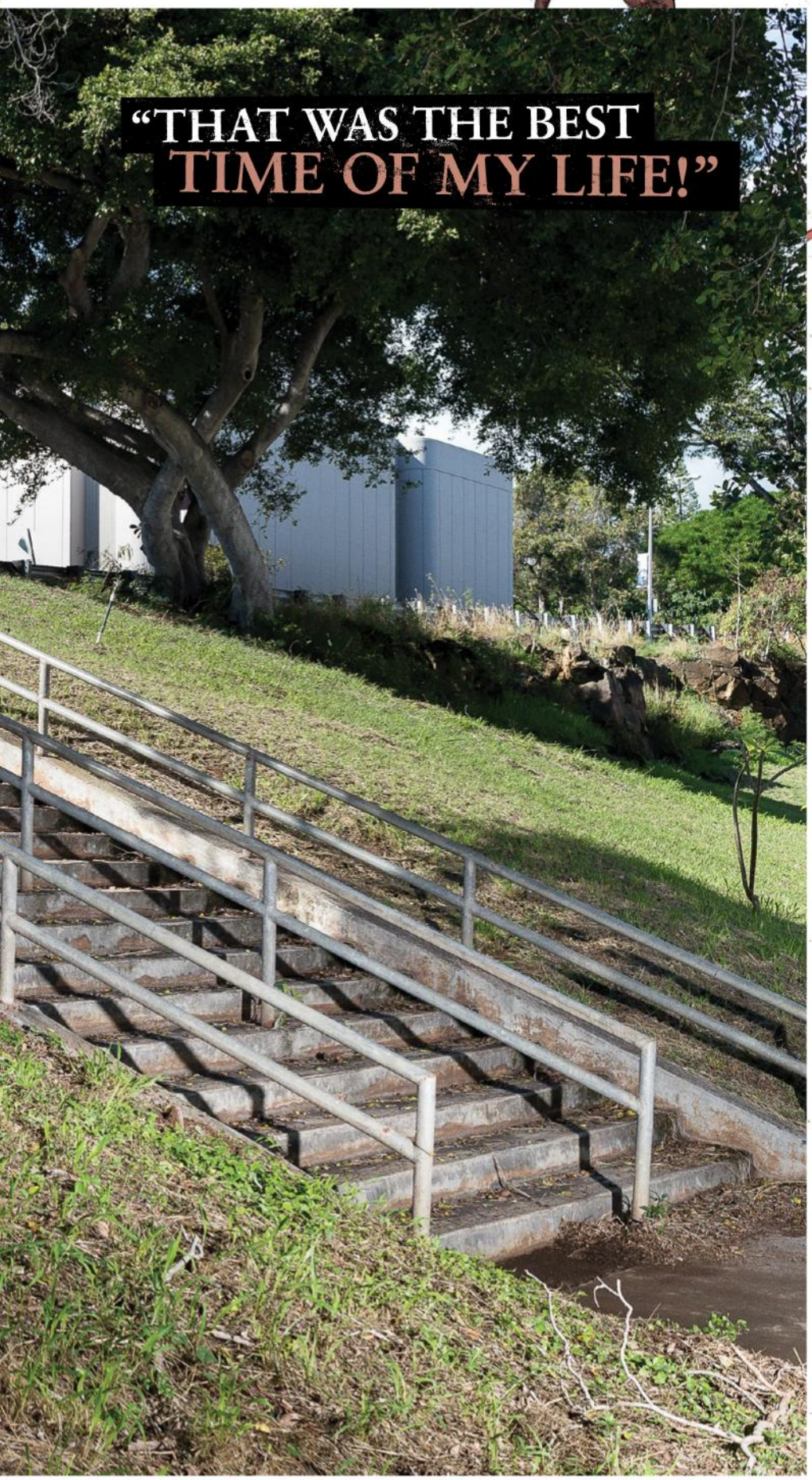
How was it turning 21 in the US? Does it change anything for you while in The States?
That was a fun experience. It was a pretty crazy one. I can finally go to the bars there now; it's tight. It's still a little strict. I'm still a little scared of getting arrested for being too drunk. That doesn't happen out here.

What's the craziest thing you've seen go down on a Creature trip?
Ha! Gravette on *KOTR* for sure!

I don't know if we can talk *too* much *KOTR* here, player. What else?
Shit. Probably that ditch we went to in Hawaii that Gravette bombed into goin', like, 100 miles an hour and ejected to his ass, just sliding forever. Ha!

What's the gnarliest thing you've seen Gravette do in person?

Most people go to Hawaii to sip drinks on the beach. **Bækkel** does that, too. But first he **grinds** the biggest kinked rail they got. Aloha, Hammer!



RHINO

That 50-50 in Finland, it was heavy. Tall rail, curves around like a C and then after the corner it goes so far. He grinded the shit out of that thing! It was insane. After doing it perfect then coming off into the dirt, eating shit, he went back up and got it.

Who's your favorite dudes to travel with from the Creature crew?
Gravette, Willis, You, Ry-Rey. He always gets me so hyped. Russell is always a good time. He keeps the party goin'. Milton.

Who rolls the best spliffs in the van?
I will claim my own!

What's up with the Creature trip tattoos you've gotten?
I got a few. One is the "Picture Me Strollin'" from the first trip we went on. A stroller with a brew in it. Just cruisin' around Europe, drinkin' beer in the streets, skatin', strollin'. The other one is a horseshoe. It's for the last Europe trip we did when the party pirate turned into the party pony in Copenhagen and ran the clippity-clop all around Europe. Had to get that one! Ha!

What trick was the biggest battle for you while filming for this video?
The biggest battle has got to be the green kinker I grinded in Santa Cruz. That was a heavy one. I never ever tried a rail like that. I just wanted to try it and then would get kinda close and eat shit, then get close and eat shit again. Kept doing that for, like, two hours and then after that I was so over it but kept trying. Then suddenly it just worked out perfect. That was definitely a hard battle.

Yeah, player, that was gnarly. It was a My War! How stoked were you after you landed it, though?
Oh fuckin'—I've never been that stoked. Ever. It was crazy to look back and know I actually grinded through that thing. Super hyped!

A lot has happened for you in the last two years: you toured with Creature a lot, became an official am on the crew, filmed a video part, went on *KOTR*, lived at my house for three months. What's next for Kevin Bækkel?
Go to The States, travel, try to film more video parts, hopefully win *KOTR* so we can do it again next year because that was the best time of my life! Just keep it goin'!♠

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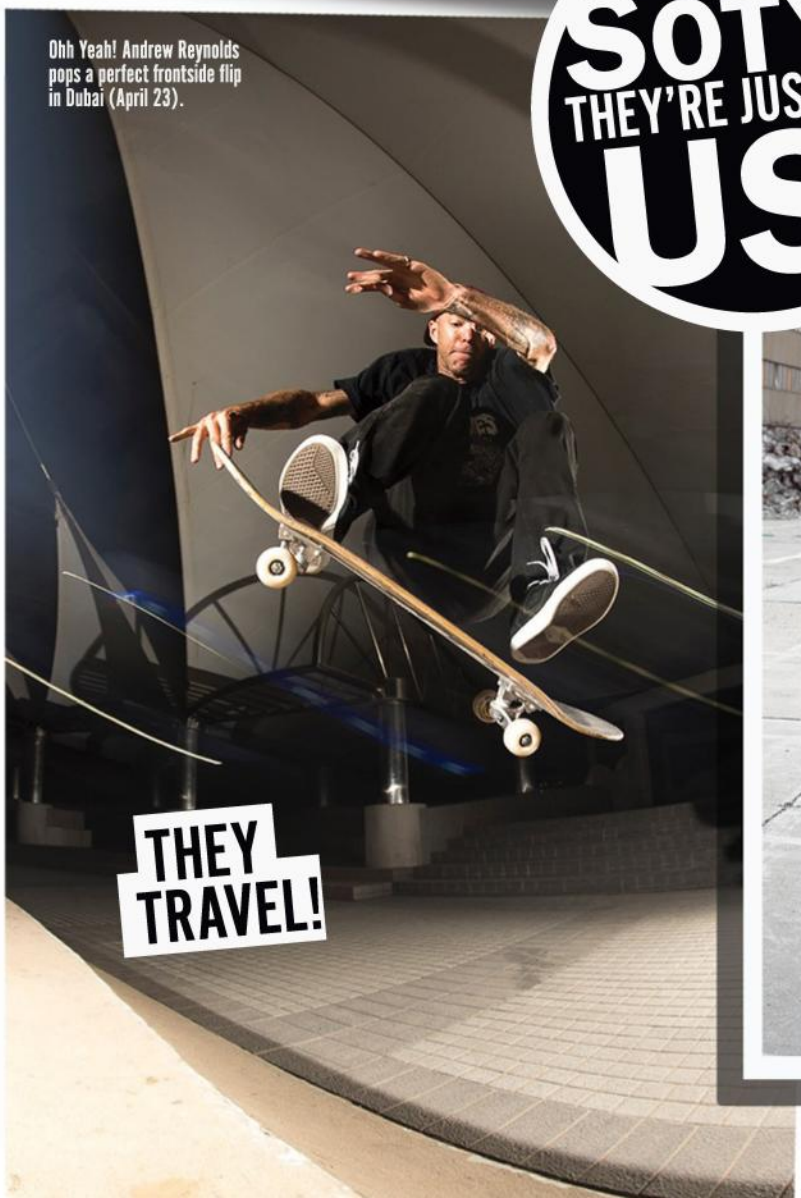
SOTYS THEY'RE JUST LIKE US!

Tasty! Salman Agah eats some avocado (April 15) in Mexico.

THEY EAT!

So sleepy! Chris Senn(April 21) catches some zzzz's at the skate park in Hawaii, post skate sesh.

THEY TAKE NAPS!



Ohh Yeah! Andrew Reynolds pops a perfect frontside flip in Dubai (April 23).

THEY TRAVEL!

THEY LIKE DONUTS!

Sweet! Arto Saari enjoys a donut in LA (April 3).

JOSH LANDAU
On Board and On Guitar
Photo: O'Meally

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VINCE STAPLES

At just 23 years old, Vince Staples has accomplished more in his rap career than most people do in a lifetime. The Long Beach native is a featured guest on the Gorillaz' forthcoming album, *Humanz*, and the track, "Ascension," is already being circulated. Coupled with the success of his most recent album, *Prima Donna*, and singles like "Norf Norf" and "Blue Suede," the Def Jam Recordings signee has clearly hit his stride. While on a brief tour stop in New Orleans, Staples had some time to chop it up about Christian school, his relationship to skateboarding and how Mac Miller was trying to kill him. —*Kyle Eustice*

I was surprised to learn you were only 23. Did you anticipate this fame happening and kind of so quickly?
Uh, no. Not at all, but I appreciate it. It's fun, I guess. It's a lot of hard work— it's all hard work. If you follow directions and listen to people who know better than you and surround yourself with people who want you to do the best you possibly can, it will all work out.

You have a really good home at Def Jam too. When you joined their roster, how did that feel?
Well, I appreciate that. They do a good job. They do their best. That's all you can really ask for from anybody else.

That's true. We have a little bit in common despite the 15-year age difference. I went to Catholic school as well. What was your experience like?
This is my Catholic school thing: I went to Catholic school in 1st grade. I went to Our Lady of Victory and then before 1st grade, I went to St. Albert's of Grace. I forgot where I went to 2nd grade, but for 3rd grade, I went to Palm Elementary, which was public, and then I went to Christian school. So my Catholic school experience was really early, but Christian school was fucking amazing. I didn't even know they had those. It was like Catholic school, but all black people.

Did you feel at home there?
Not really. It was a small school, so I knew everybody and the teachers were cool, but it was school, you know? The fact it was still school just makes it still school, so as a kid, you're automatically going to go against it.

Were you a good student?
I always had good grades. School was easy. I never had a problem.

I read in an interview that you don't drink or smoke. What went into that decision?
I just never started. It's easier to not do it. I never really got around to it, but I don't have the blessing or luxury of just being able to have that strength to stop. I just never got around to it. It was never something I cared for. When I was a kid, it wasn't everywhere like it is now. It was a different situation for me. It was never a thought of mine. I was always weird. People always ask, "How did you make it out of such a harsh environment?" and it's really not that deep. I happen to live where I live and my friends are my friends and they've known me my entire life. I was just the weird one and they pushed me to not be otherwise. I had a lot of good people around me that made sure I stayed myself.

It takes a strong person to not succumb to that life, especially in the music industry, when drug and alcohol use is really prevalent. I better not talk to you years from now and you're the complete opposite.
And I'm all high?

Yeah.
I promise you I will never be super high.

You said something about going to Mac Miller's house all the time and they'd be smoking non-stop.
I had to stop going over there eventually because my asthma is really bad and they were trying to kill me. There was a lot going on over there.

He's hilarious, but I can only imagine the debauchery going on behind closed doors.
Oh yeah, he's a very debaucherous creature.

"My asthma is really bad and they were trying to kill me"

Any artists you really want to work with?
I don't have anyone on a dream list because of the fact I'm willing to work with anybody. You want to work with someone who will help you learn something so I've never been in a situation where I don't want to work with anybody. Of course there are a few you want to work with one day, but I am open to work with anyone.

You're networking with the right people so you don't put yourself around people you wouldn't want to work with, is that right?
That's what I'm saying.

You said something like rappers act hard to scare you and try to glorify things. Like rappers will bring fake guns to video sets and they don't live in Compton, they live in the Valley, which is really not all that gangster. What's your opinion on that?
It's less about that and more about feeling they had to do it to get notoriety. That just goes to show how we look at these artists. If an artist really wants to become successful and that's what he has to do to become successful, he's going to do it. The fact that's on me within this genre is kind of sad.

You've been called a "regular rapper." You don't put on this fake persona, which I appreciate. Why go that route?
I don't know. I just never had to be anything I wasn't, so it was easy for me. It's funny, as much as people are surprised by me being the way I am, no one where I come from is surprised, you know what I'm saying? I'm just glad I am able to make a living with who I am and what I do.

One of my favorite beats is the "Norf Norf" beat. Did you help out in the production?
On that one—nothing. I do now, but as far as that one, I just heard it and wanted it when I was finishing my album. Clams Casino was playing beats and I was, like, "Let me have that." He's, like, "Why? Do you think it fits?" I knew it would fit. I think it's more about hearing it and less about telling the producer what to do. I just want them to have control of what they create and then I'll go from there.

Do you have any relationship to skating?
I'm from Long Beach so if you were a kid and didn't skate we kind of shunned you. I grew up during peak Baker time, so it's definitely something I did. That was my shit.

Do you still skate?
Not anymore. I'm fucking old now.♠

FETCH

HUNNY

Going to a Hunny show is an experience. They meet every criteria for the perfect pop band: charismatic with a touch of broodiness, a frontman that climbs on speaker towers, posi guitarist shredding immaculately, synth wizard and tight and funky-when-necessary rhythm section. They create some sort of chemical reaction in fans, causing their legions to throw notes, flowers and other sundries on stage—a level of reverence rivaling the last uncanceled Morrissey show I attended. Just like Pooh Bear, it is easy to be obsessed with Hunny—these LA rockers are total sweethearts: pure, young and full of sugar. Singer, JZN, and I talked about music, skateboarding, babes, anime and the meaning of life over some extra-cheese pizza. Kevin, Jake, Jazzy Greg and Joey, there was only enough pie for two of us but you made it in the Bible. —*Corey Duffel*

How long have you been waiting for an interview in *Thrasher*? I couldn't tell you guys were fans because you cool guyed me so hard at that first show when I met you.
I still can't believe it, actually. I feel like I'm cheating by getting in the Bible with playing music instead of skateboarding. Twelve-year-old me is still mad that it's not for the latter. That first show we met you at, we were just trying so hard not to freak out on you.

So you just broke your ankle skating. Will you continue the tour on crutches?
Yes, hopefully I'll be good before we hit the road next month. If not, I'm gonna have to take a page out of the Dave Grohl book and get myself a throne to jam from on stage. Fingers crossed.

What is your favorite boxed wine?
As long as it's cheap and red, we're in business.

Tell me about the series of EPs you guys are working on. What's your beef with the full-length album? Will you ever release a full-length?
Yeah, that's probably the best way to put it. Besides a couple singles on 7" flexi discs, we haven't put anything out in awhile. We've been writing songs like crazy the last couple months so we figured we should make up for lost time. The whole operation is essentially gonna turn out to be a double LP. We love albums but the attention span of 2017 makes it a little difficult for anything to stick or really be impactful. We could drop the "long-awaited debut album" and two weeks later the kids are on Twitter asking for new shit. We realized it's probably better for us to be ahead of the whole thing. Put the new shit out before they even have a chance to ask. We're taking cues from the mixtape community. Rappers are coming up everywhere by just blasting the world with content. We want to be at the forefront of that with rock music. A regular full-length will come out of us one day, for sure.

Tell me about Hunny outside of the jar. What do you guys do in your spare time?
Most of my spare time is still spent with Hunny, to be honest. Between making demos or our shirts and art or writing lyrics, this band takes up most of my time. All of us are always writing new music anytime we can for the most part. I hang out with my dog a lot. Other than that, mostly video games and skateboarding. Some things never change, I guess.

What does "never" mean to you?
It's a nice sounding word that's good to use in lyrics sometimes but we don't like using it too much unless it's like a, "We're never gonna do shit the way these other bands do," kind of thing.

I know you're focusing more on music these days, but once a skater, always a skater. In your opinion, what are your favorite, most iconic skate parts and which of your songs would be a better fit for those parts?
This question is fucked. I know Jake's are Rowley's *Really Sorry* and Ethan Fowler's *A Visual Sound* part and of course Rieder's *Dylan* part. I have to go with the Klein/Kirchart combo in *The End*. The skating, the suits, the mansion, the journey—all solid. We would never want to replace anything with us, though, 'cause half the bands we got into as kids were because of skate parts. We'll go with being the song in your next part, Duffman.

If you had your own skate part, what song would you choose?
Dude, this is the best and worst question ever. I don't know how many times in my life I've said, "Dude, *this* is gonna be my song." I think of one probably every other day. Jake was saying the other day, funny enough, that he'd love to have a part to Wax Idols' "Everybody Gets What They Want." His go-to has always been "Electric Relaxation" by A Tribe Called Quest. Two opposite sides of the spectrum musically but equally good vibes. I think currently I'd go with "Erase You" by ESG or "Pow! To The People" by The Make-Up, though I don't think I could put together enough footy of me doing front rocks and no complies over curbs to fill up either song.

"Half the bands we got into as kids were because of skate parts"

What are some animes people should check out?
I don't want this question to turn into a whole page so I'll just say *FLCL*, *Akira* and *Neon Genesis Evangelion* are definitely my all-time favorites.

Flower of choice to wear on your lapel?
Depends on the suit. What I really need is a full-blown clown one that shoots water and everything, then I'll be set.

Most importantly, which character on *Sailor Moon* do each of you guys identify with?
I'll call dibs on Sailor Saturn. Kev likes Sailor Jupiter 'cause she's a redhead. Jake's gonna wanna be Tuxedo Mask. I'm giving Greg Sailor Neptune 'cause I think she's the tallest. Joey can be one of the cats.♠

HAYS

MATIX

DENIM & LEATHER

BANKS

I **randomly crossed** paths with Denim & Leather in Paris while I was on the hunt for a punk show to escape the gypsies hustling selfie sticks. Whether it be dumb luck or fate, I stumbled across a flyer that caught my eye. It was for the Paris stop of their tour with TV Crime that night. I went down into the brick-dungeon-like venue where I was blown away by these English gents. After the show I talked to the dudes about their ties to Saxon, skating and the Queen. –*Jordan Joseffer*

So, what's up? You guys are named after a Saxon song?
Yeah, yeah. We're named after the Saxon song. Basically our guitarist used to work for a massive ticket company called Ticketline and he said when he used to work the box office there was one lone guy who bought a ticket to every metal show on his own and he would come with a massive battle jacket on with every band on it. He was going to those gigs alone and the Saxon song has a very similar sentiment that makes people value those kind of things. So we wanted to make music for that one lone rocker.

Seeing how you guys play punk, it seems like an average Saxon fan would be bummed on you guys.
We've been getting booked for, like, glam metal gigs and we played them all. Most people are kind of confused but a big percentage of people are, like, "That's pretty fucking good." It's more about bringing the energy to that kind of thing without it being the homogenized crappy rock 'n' roll that it is.

Has anyone ever demanded for you to cover "Denim and Leather"?
Never! Not yet. I wish someone would embarrass us like that. I don't even know half of the lyrics.

I noticed you have an unfinished *Thrasher* logo tattoo that just says "Thrash." What happened? Did it hurt too bad or are you really into thrash?
I don't feel pain. Nah, I got this a long time ago. I've been a skater forever. This is our lives, you know. We are children 'til we die. Our boards are on tour. We've been ripping it up at every stop as much as we can. We've been skating since we were about 13. We never got any better but we just continued doing it through it being popular and unpopular and now it's popular again. We're a lot worse than people who are our age that just started.

Well, it doesn't matter if it's popular; it just matters if you're having fun doing it.
Yes, of course.

I gotta ask you about your other tattoo. It's PMA but it's crossed out.
Ha! It wasn't meant to be crossed out. I also have another tattoo here that says, "Kill Yourself" so it kind of made sense. As soon as I got the PMA tattoo and it was crossed out I was, like, "This is bullshit. I don't want to cross this out. This is the code I live by and I love the Bad Brains." And in accordance to it I thought, "You know what? Fuck it. Kill yourself." I used to write graffiti back in Manchester and that was our crew name: "Kill yourself" or "Kiss Your Sister."

Have you guys toured the USA?
Never, but we've played with some American bands: Poison Idea, Bl'ast! from Santa Cruz and others.

As an American I feel like we look stupid to the rest of the world. We just elected Donald Trump as President. Do you guys think we're idiots?
That doesn't reflect on the rest of the fucking people. The fact that man can get so many people to think, "Oh, he's just like me," when he's a fucking billionaire from birth with 20 yachts, 100 billion dollars, prostitutes on tap—It doesn't reflect on everyone, though.

How do you guys feel about the Queen?
Kill it. The thing is we persecute people who take advantage of the benefit system, like help for families and help with homes and stuff like that, but she has this massive house and loads of other houses and gets loads and loads of money. She's the biggest benefit fraud in the UK.

Could you credit the Queen's reign to punk? Dating back to the Sex Pistols.
Everything is affected by everything. Malcom McLaren knew if he engineered all those situations he'd be able to get a decent response off the media, but what he was doing was following what other people had done in the past with the Beatles and stuff like that. I don't attribute any of that kind of thing to the Sex Pistols. They were just kind of like following the trend. Kind of like how a shop like American Apparel will sell Circle Jerks shirts and stuff like that. They are reappropriating something that was ghetto and working class culture and making it something that's sellable.

"Keep YOLOing only once. Make America vape again"

Anything else you want to say to the skaters around the world?
Skeet skeet. Keep YOLOing only once. Make America vape again. It's only 4:20 twice a day and Denim n Leather are going to fuck you up.♠

ANDREW REYNOLDS, BRYAN HERMAN, THEOTIS BEASLEY,
NUGE, LIZARD KING, DEE OSTRANDER, STEVIE WILLIAMS, DANE VAUGHN,
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SYPNIEWSKI

THE SHINS

The Shins have been making some of the best independent pop music for years and their most recent release, *Heartworms*, is no exception. James Mercer's empathetic approach to songwriting continues and is coupled with a wide range of musical approaches. We recently caught up with him after their show to discuss the new album and his love of skateboarding. — *David Sypniewski*

You've had some recent changes to the lineup. What are the updates?
Yeah, we lost Joe Plummer because he's in Cold War Kids and they had a number one hit and stuff and he was just busy with them and they were recording a record right when we were starting to record ours. It just was conflict there, so he's with Cold War Kids and Richard Swift is in The Black Keys and he's doing The Arcs with Dan as well, and he's producing and mixing all kinds of records, so he's busy now too. Yeah, so we've got Patty King who's amazing on keyboards and playing violin and singing. Mark Watrous is still with us; Yuuki Matthews is still with us. Then we got Jon Sortland who was in Broken Bells last tour and Casey Foubert.

It's safe to assume that your new song "Mildenhall" is about is your discovery of music and skateboarding.
I was a skater and that kid in class looked at me and thought I was maybe hip and would be into what she was into. It's one of those things: you're in high school and you've got to pick and choose who you're going to be friends with. You've got to be careful, right? That literally happened. Somebody gave me a tape and it was The Jesus and Mary Chain and then, through skating, I met just a few friends. There were probably five of us who were really skaters in that high school and just somehow, it's hard to say what it is, but there's always that link between skating and music. It's funny because when we were at Tony Hawk's place today he played the Dead Kennedys and I was, like, "Goddamn it, man, that's high school." That, along with a lot of other stuff, though, too. I got into playing guitar in there somewhere and started trying to learn Smiths songs and stuff like that. I was one of those kids who had friends who were really into hardcore punk stuff, like the Cro-Mags and stuff, and I'd totally be down with them. Then I'd listen to Echo & the Bunnymen and The Smiths and stuff like that.

The Descendents helped me through the emotional teenage years.
Music can turn some shit that's basically a real negative thing that you are going through or something you might do and it can kind of pull a

rabbit out of the hat. Descendents are a great band to do that. They represent kind of nerdy, goofy guys who are filled with angst and they want the same shit everyone else wants. They want to have a life. We all want to be accepted, we want to have a girlfriend and we want to deal with this crazy fucked-up thing that it is to turn from a kid into an adult. Especially in this fucked-up society that doesn't give a fuck about you either way. Music turns into something beautiful. Skateboarding, it really saved me too. It pulled me out of social ineptitude. It gave me an athletic outlet. The organized athletic system of school doesn't work for everybody. If you're not a certain body type or a certain sort of athlete you can't be on the fucking football team. It ain't gonna happen. You still might be a scrappy type of motherfucker who can do some shit, but there's nothing sanctioned for you. Skateboarding, you find to be a wonderful outlet. Skateboarding is so stylistic. It's an aesthetic thing as well as athletic thing. There's something about skating that is art. Skateboarding is everything.

You just made a video for "Name for You" with Savannah Headden and Samarria Brevard skating in it. What the song about?
I've got three daughters and I think that when you think about them growing up and stuff, I just—I had this song and I don't know exactly why but the chorus just came out, "Name for you, we've got a name for you." I was thinking about the concept of slut shaming that you've heard about and I remember being a young guy and entertaining that double standard that we apply to women, and it's just funny how my perspective has changed because it really is, I think, so unfair. I guess I was thinking about that and just wanting to write something that was encouraging and just cheering on young women and maybe just identifying or empathizing with the plight of being a young woman today.

At the show tonight, you said that your new favorite song to play is "Fantasy Island."
Yeah, we've been really enjoying it. That's a new one and we're playing it even though it's not out yet. I know what it's like to be in the audience and you hear a new song from some band and you really want to hear the old stuff, so I'm a little apologetic about it. It's, like, "We've got a new song we want to play you, just please sit tight, wait for a second." It was really good I thought. A friend of mine told me, "You shouldn't play so many new songs." I was, like, "God, what do we do? We're here to support this record; it's almost out; it's going to be out."

Are there those kind of rules when you're playing, like, you have to make sure to play the hits?
Some bands go and they'll just play the new record. They'll play the new shit and hardly anything old. I've seen bands like that and it is a little tiresome.

Well, how long do you have to be a band before you do the full album?
Like, go back and play an album? Right, that whole thing. I don't know; that is pretty cool. I went and saw The Zombies and they did *Odessey and Oracle* and then they played a bunch of songs afterwards. It was pretty rad. We could probably do that. *Oh, Inverted World* would probably be the one that people would want to see us do the whole record. ♠

NOTES from the UNDERGROUND

On the large size platters tip, got a hell of an LP by Nova Scotia's **Booji Boys**. They're named after one of **Devo**'s characters—who made his first appearance in 1976. These guys take some ripping power-pop tinged breakneck punk and submerge it in some utterly chaotic feedback and lo-fi noise. It's hard to be catchy and strident (in a good way) at the same time, but ripping at playing your instruments is likely a key to success. The record is self-titled and on Drunken Sailor records, it features a member of **Alienation**, the dudes skate and there's more dope on the way. The band wears some influences on their sleeves, from the **CCR**-inspired cover to their name, and like I said this whole record stomps… Still on the larger size format but sped up to 45rpm, the **Brad Pot** debut self-titled EP is another fine example of zorch-and-scorch punk rawk from Australia. You'll hear some of **Jay Reatard**'s nastiness in the vocals (R.I.P.) and the music is straight up blazing. Slovenly Records has been combing the globe for years in search of unheralded bands to bring to the masses—well, that's relatively speaking, of course—and this fits right in that pen. It's a keeper… And another noteworthy EP on Slovenly from closer to home is the **Moral Panic** self-titled slab. Punk as fuck with the rough edges left in place for your listening pleasure, this is the kind of shit that'll make squares shit their pants in a self-induced head-scratching mania as they try to dig those grooves. Some people get this shit, some people don't, but I know which side I'm on… And another 45rpm 12"—is this some kind of revolution?—that is way, way worthy of your attention (and lunch money) is the new one from **Midnite Snaxxx**. This SF-based powerhouse has gone through a few lineup changes but is currently a quartet

"Self-induced head-scratching mania"

comprised of two dicks and two chicks and is more than adept at cranking punk tunes with some pop undertones. They're a hoot live and it translates to basically goddam right on vinyl. *Chew On This* is what it's called, and Pelican Pow Wow is the label… Reissues are so hot right now. So hot, they're clogging up the pressing plants. I've ranted about $30 **Supertramp** *Breakfast in America* reissues and their ilk—those are dollar-bin records that are widely available, 1400 available on Discogs and starting at $.50, and do you really want kippers for breakfast?—but once in awhile something noteworthy pops up and it's my moral duty to tell you about it. Check out the **Dead Boys**' *Young, Loud and Snotty*. First released in 1977, the Dead Boys were on the tougher and heavier end of the first wave of American punk and hit their stride in NYC at CBGB and elsewhere after having moved from Cleveland (where they were in **Frankenstein**, the band's (and **Pere Ubu**'s) predecessor). The record is tough as nails and solid throughout ("Not Anymore" is the record's one soft spot), and if you haven't got it seek it out (or better yet try to find the rough mixes that came out as *Younger, Louder and Snottier*—Cheetah Chrome would approve). R.I.P. **Stiv Bators**… And another one to track down is **the Cramps**' *Bad Music for Bad People*. Originally released in 1984, it's a compilation of earlier material (and contains most of the stuff that the earlier comp. *Off the Bone* has which led to some derision) but it is one of those classics that simply deserves respect. The Cramps blended unhinged rockabilly with punk sensibilities and are mostly responsible for the wave of god-awful psychobilly bands that came later. R.I.P. **Lux Interior**. —*Wez Lundry* ♠

JOSEFFER

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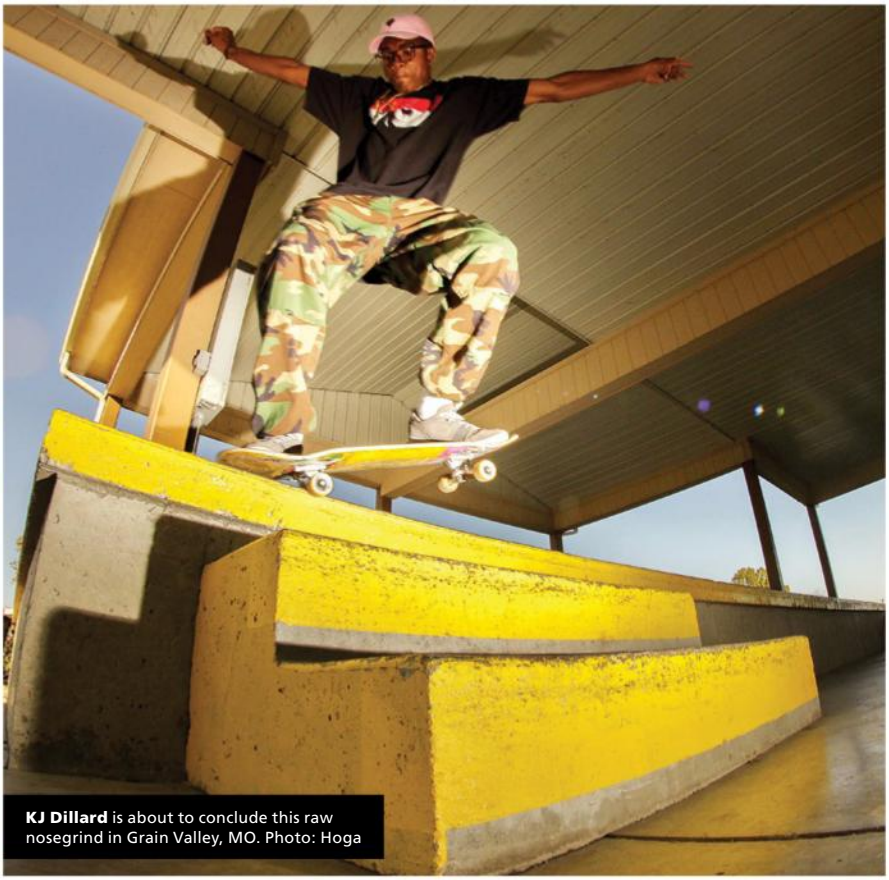
Elliot Mondragon creates his own *Tales from the Crypt* with this tomb-raider snap. Richmond, VA. Photo: Mills

Even an ordinary skate moment can be magnificent. **Victoria Holguin**. Juarez, Mexico. Photo: Reveles



KJ Dillard is about to conclude this raw nosegrind in Grain Valley, MO. Photo: Hoga

Timing is everything. Miss the shot and you've got early flips, late grinds, awkward airs and pissed-off homies. PO Box 884570 SF, CA or photo-g@thrashermagazine.com (300dpi).

Red-bearded **Josh Parke** color coordinates this grind in Charlotte, NC. Photo: Pacheco

This terrain is like skate spot porn. Bluntslide drop by **Jagger Bond**, Ontario, Canada. Photo: Harrison

Michigan's **Mike Taylor** holds tight in the deep end vortex. Photo: Stelly

Tony Marle grabs some tail during a pedestrian transfer. Colorado. Photo: McKenzie

Futuristic bike rack or modern art fail? **Justin LeCompte**, Ohio. Photo: Florea

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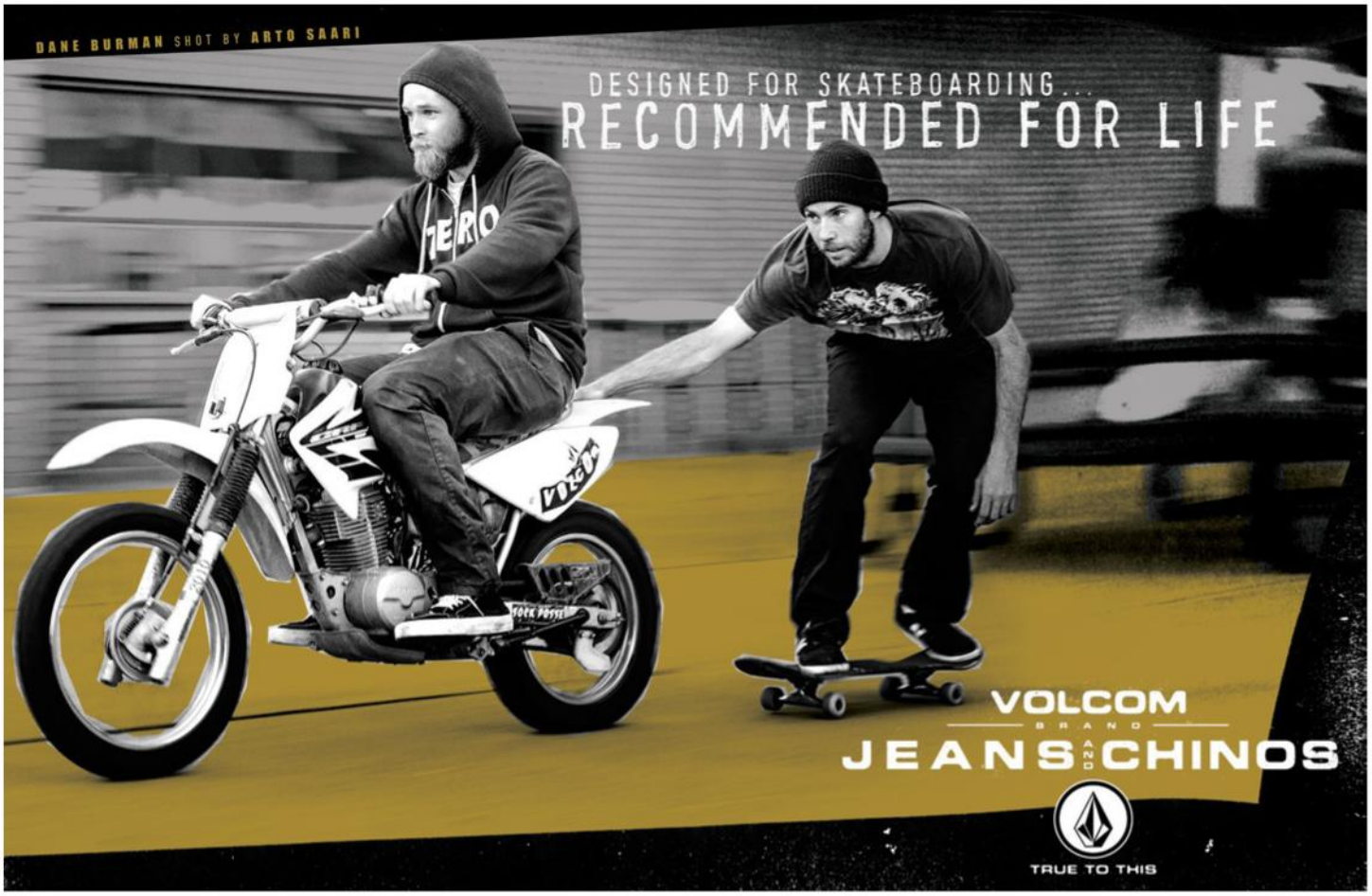

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EXS Distribution

MEXICO D.F.
Fishbone SK8

TIJUANA
Primitivo Skateshop

NETHERLANDS

ZAANDAM
Allstyle Distribution
31.75.616.3207

ZOETERMEER
Hardcore Supplies

NORWAY

OSLO
Final Supplies Norway AS
47.926.50501

PANAMA

CHITRE
Full Drop Store

DAVID
Full Drop Store

PANAMA CITY
Armonica Shop

SANTIAGO
Full Drop Store

PERU

LIMA
DHS Distribution SRL
Faster Skate Shop
Skate Outlet

POLAND

LODZ
System Sklep SP. Z O.O.

PORTUGAL

LISBOA
Marteleira LDA

PUERTO RICO

AQUADILLA
Surf Zone

RUSSIA

ROSTOV-ON-DON
Boardak
7.918.5588686

SAINT PETERSBURG
Red Fox
7.906.258.08.52

SINGAPORE

Ameritrends
65.90.83319
Boards & Stuff
65.9272.8122
Interstate Boardshop

SLOVENIA

LJUBLJANA
Obsession d.o.o.
386 1 2822028

SOUTH AFRICA

CAPE TOWN
Baseline Skate Shop

SPAIN

MADRID
Stone Skateboards

SWEDEN

NOLLÅTTA
Veåtta Sweden AB
46.8679.5500

SWITZERLAND

AADORF
Illumate GmbH

TAIWAN

TAIPEI
Jet Sunny Co Ltd
866.2.8792.2137

UKRAINE

KIEV
Flipside Corp
Kapkan Shop

WANT TO SEE YOUR SHOP FEATURED? CALL RICK ROTSAERT AT (415) 671-2426 OR EMAIL RICK@THRASHERMAGAZINE.COM

SHOP OF THE MONTH

Mainline
Huntington Park, California

Mainline is a family-owned and operated skateshop that was first established in 1995 in the city of Huntington Park, CA. We now have three locations in the greater Los Angeles area and have been sponsoring a team since day one. Our original location in Huntington Park has become a staple in the community, supporting generations of skateboarders for over 20 years. In 2011, a second location was opened in Bell, CA, equipped with a mini ramp and in 2014 a third location in Highland Park was established which features an art gallery space. We take pride in being a core skateshop and carry almost every brand in boards, shoes, clothing and accessories. If you're ever in the Los Angeles area, be sure to stop by. You will be greeted by a friendly and helpful staff and maybe even a beer.

For more information, check out their site: mainlinela.site88.net or follow them on Instagram: @mainlineskateshop

Cole Wilson

EST. 1976
AWH
SKATEBOARD DISTR.

HAPPY HOUR
happyhourshades.com
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HELLO GOODBYE

King of the Road, your mom's favorite cross-country scavenger hunt road trip freak out, returns to the small screen (and the even smaller one in your pocket) starting June 8th on the popular Viceland cable network and via our always-free webisodes (albeit in a more stripped-down, all-kill presentation).

Deathwish, enjoi and Creature are the masochists this time around and early reports indicate skate destruction far outpacing years prior, due in no small part to the maniacal abilities and youthful enthusiasm of **Jackson Pilz**, **Jamie Foy** and cover boy **Kevin Bækkel**. Oh, and **Gravette** may have gotten another face tattoo? Wait, more like a tattoo *of* a face. Check the ad in this mag and decide for yourself.

The concrete crusaders of Newark, New Jersey, had their dreams dashed like so many members of the American electorate recently when they awoke to find their beloved Shorty's DIY skatepark crushed under the swinging wrecking ball of progress. Fuck it, we blame **Trump** for this shit too.

In alliances of powerful proportions, is our guy masterlensman **Preston "P-Stone" Maigetter** really moving his family to tiny Vashon Island, WA, home to the one and only **Cory Kennedy**? Are they, in fact, putting down stakes in one of Cory's spare estates, a mere stone's throw from the man with the magic Jambox himself? The ramifications both skate and culinary of such an epic collaboration are truly mind boggling. Book your summer travel now!

In documentary developments, '90s touchstones *Big Brother* magazine and the *Tony Hawk's Pro Skater* game are both receiving cinematic examination, the former by *Thrasher* and Dodge Skatepark alumn, **Patrick O'Dell**, and the latter by someone likely unafraid to use the term "frontside overcrooks."

Parting is such sweet sorrow and this month the fearsome Flip skateboards program announced they will be giving a heartfelt "so long" to NHS, their distro. home since they abandoned Blitz some years ago. Unrelated but equally international, **Wieger Van Wageningen** has turned in his panda at enjoi for an Uzi over on the Nike-approved Skate Mental team. Enjoi, meanwhile, got even more exotic, giving Portugal's **Thaynan Costa** the pro nod during their recent beer-soaked Barcelona residency. Congrats, friends from afar!

Marc Johnson ended his board sponsor drought with a Real "Our Slip is Showing"-inspired signature stick on a brand called The Otherness, somehow related to Black Sheep skateshop in his home state of Cacka. So is this his new company? A one-off art project? Some other such thing? Let us know after you grip one of those babies up.

Wanna know about that new-new? Well **Sammy Montano** is the newest am on the Alien Workshop, **Roman Pabich** will be crushing cope on OJs and **Dolan Stearns** and **Brendan Keaveny** have taken the pro plunge for the low-key Lurkville brand. **Jose Rojo** is skating smooth-as-silk for Matix and **Tiago Lemos** is repping Active, at least while Stateside, that is. The Shep Dawg's **Rowan Zorilla** scored a double whammy this month—a colorway on Vans and a slot on the coveted Supreme team. Not bad for a local boy from Vista, right? Speaking of, streetstyle legend **Matt Hensley** and cobbler **Ed Dominick** have launched a brand of low-cost, liquor-store chillin' shoes called Kingston Union Mfg, perfect for band practice and bullshitting around in the garage. Elsewhere down old Vista way, fellow Shepdawger **Taylor "Kirby" Kirby** was surprised with his pro model on Deathwish recently, long overdue some would say. Good job, Kirby!

Handrail hero **Heath Kirchart** and bartending bud **Boosh** have began another daring physical adventure—this time a leisurely trip down the Sea of Cortez in an open-topped rowboat. Beats jumping down those double sets and holding hands with **Jennifer Lawrence**, we guess. Safe travels, y'all!

Videos to keep you up all night this month: ripping parts from *The Creature Video*, Indy's *Pedal to the Metal* tour video, an amateur jam from DC and pro-caliber joint from Thaynan Costa. Hit refresh now.

AIR 'EM OUT

Mike "Lizard King" Plumb has a shorts wish

Flossin ain't just for gangstas. Skankie and Zion tear it up!

QUOTES:

"I want to be humanity's last hope." —*Na-kel Smith*

"The wife turned her nose up at them when they showed up, but now they're in her regular rotation." —*Jerry Hsu, regarding Thrasher's girl's hot shorts*

"ABDs are so 2013." —*Mike Carroll*

"It's hard not to fan out on Duffel when I'm around him." —*Ben Kadow*

"I was sober except for stoned." —*Dylan Witkin, talking about a Dead show*

"I kept checking my rearview in case of cops 'cause I was speeding." —*Jesse Vieira, on bombing a hill*

"Does that mean we get to see titties?" —*Kader Sylla, regarding Hooters' free-lunch-for-kids program*

"I think when my bros cry I'm the most powerful." —*Dakota Servold*

"I'm too stoned to make much sense right now." —*Mark Appleyard*

"Instagram ruined skating." —*Corey Duffel*

"The Empire State Building has 55 stairs." —*Andy Roy, when asked what the smartest thing he knows is*

"Skateboard shoe companies make shitty shoes. Nike, adidas, Converse make really great shoes." —*Roger Bagley, not getting invited to GVR 2017*

"That acid really saved my life today." —*Evan Smith*

"I spent the night in the mall once when the iPad was coming out—not to buy an iPad, I just wanted to spend the night in the mall." —*Ryan Reyes*

"The vape helps me shred." —*Roman Pabich*

"If she looks like Curren then she must be pretty hot." —*Daniel Wheatley*

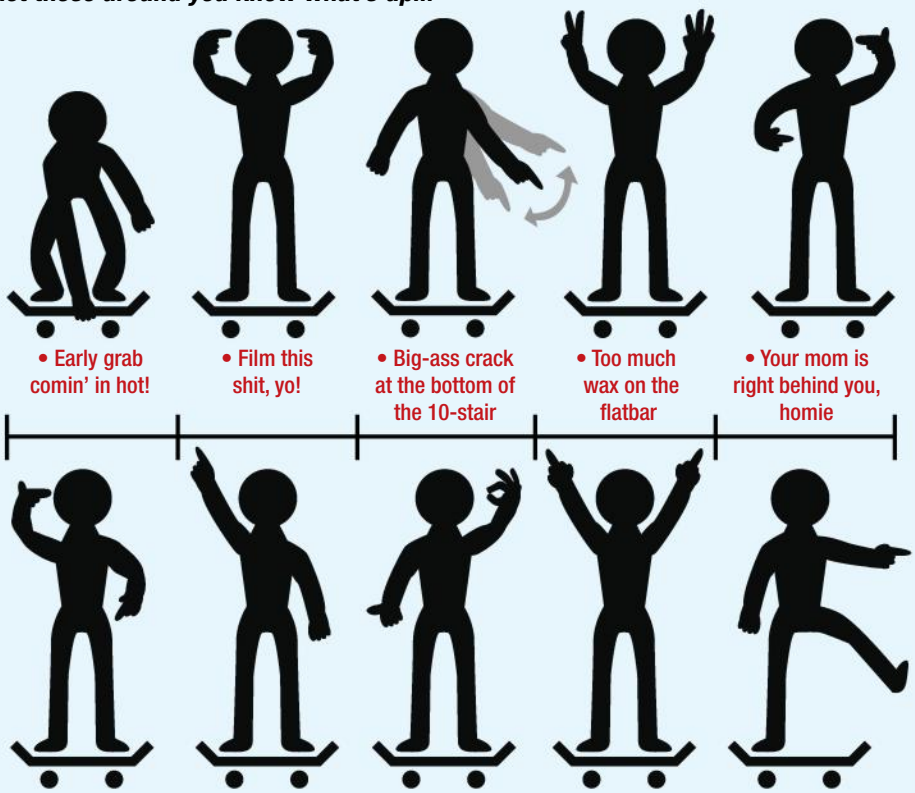
"Nora and D Vargs broke up because of me!" —*Kader Sylla*

"I wish I didn't focus my board at the last session. I could be skating right now." —*Ishod Wair*

"I wish I had more boards in the trunk. I'd focus them all!" —*Ishod Wair*

SKATEPARK HAND SIGNALS

BUSY SKATEPARKS can be kinda hectic. Luckily, there's a set of hand signals to let those around you know what's up...



DROP IN

1

KOTR returns to TV
You know, that big computer thing at your grandma's house with no keyboard

2

Psycho SF Hill Bombs
Skate or Die, literally

Blondey McCoy's Feline Phobia
He just don't want cat hair on his fly Palace gear

4

Wieger quits enjoi for Skate Mental
Ginger bidding war

5

Lakai's *The Flare*
Marc who?

6

Lyon 25: Scooted!
Let's see someone jump it on a horse

7

Newark's Shorty's DIY Destroyed
And not by Freddy Gall this time

8

Tony Hawk Video Game Documentary
Sit and Destroy

9

Heath K Rows to Mexico
He heard about a rail down there

10

Bobby de Keyzer pro
Hopefully he can afford some pants now

11

Nostalgia for the early '90s
When wheels were pebbles and men dressed like rodeo clowns

BLABAC

CHASE WEBB

Age: 22

Hometown: Murrieta, CA

Sponsors: Pizza, DC, Thunder, Spitfire, Active, Mob

First board: A Shorty's board my dad found in the trash at work

Haircut: Grow it out 'til I get over it

First idol: My dad

Fave video: *Baker 3*

People say I look like: The Sprouse twins

Wildest DM: Some girls, usually just homies showing love about skating

Movie: *Super Troopers*

Shoulda died: Infection in my eye at 13. Three weeks in the hospital

Never, ever: Give up

The good homies: Too many! They all rule

The haters: They all rule too

Hawk or Hosoi: Hawk

Biggest paycheck: $6,500 from a contest

Musical genius: Ty Segall

If you ever get in a fight: Fights suck

Words to live by: Love your life

Kickflip 50-50

PEACE OF MIND

FLIGHT™

DECK CONSTRUCTION

POWELL PERALTA

"The locals charge the vert wall but France's Kevin Rodrigues went upper decker"

NOSE DIVE

The locals charge the vert wall but France's **Kevin Rodrigues** went upper decker at BART Banks. Top-rope grind in with a nose scrape entry. Sacré bleu!

BROOK

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SUMMON SOMETHING

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TONY TRUJILLO

INDEPENDENT
TRUCK COMPANY

it's all downhill from here!

enjoi

THE
CREATURE
VIDEO
VI VI VI
featuring - NAVARRETTE, PARTANEN, GRAVETTE, KIMBEL, REYES, RUSSELL, MARTINEZ, WILKINS, RAFFIN, HOOKER, GARDNER, BAEKKEL, JUNEAU, RODRIGUEZ and many more.
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